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Borough Council Approves COAH Plan, Previews 2009 Budget, Agrees to Mediator

Borough Council engaged in a flurry of activity last Tuesday as it approved the affordable housing plan to be sent to the New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing (COAH), previewed the 2009 budget, agreed upon a mediator for the dispute with the developer Nassau HKT, and drafted a resolution to meet with Township Committee four times every year in addition to any joint budget meetings.

Affordable housing consultant Shirley Bishop recapped the specifics of the plan that outlines how the Borough will meet the housing and rehabilitation obligation that COAH has placed upon it by 2018.

Under the obligation, the Borough must rehab 67 affordable units and must build or set aside 178 units. Having devised a checklist, implementation schedule, and spending plan, Ms. Bishop assured Council that the plan they submit to COAH is not set in stone and can be amended.

Pointing out that COAH itself admits that the data it used to calculate the affordable housing obligation in municipalities was flawed, Council member David Goldfarb added, "Obviously our statistics are very heavily skewed by the fact that we're a small town with a very large University," which also affects income statistics.

Borough resident Dudley Sipprelle asked why the Borough was in COAH at all, and characterized the Borough as being "built out" and "any growth that is taking place is going to come from the University."

Mayor Mildred Trotman said that the Borough's participation in COAH allows them to get "as much assistance as we can." Furthermore, if the Borough fails to file a plan with COAH by the end of this year, it leaves open the possibility of a builder's remedy lawsuit, and the height and density stipulations for future buildings could be taken out of the hands of the municipality, she said.

"We have the right in the future to opt out at any time. But in the meantime, if we're not in, we can't collect the developer fee," Mr. Goldfarb reasoned.

Princeton University Director of Community and Regional Affairs Kristin Appelget noted that the University is "ready and willing to be at the table to generate affordable housing."

The plan was approved unanimously.

In his preview of the 2009 budget, Borough Administrator Robert Bruschi

Continued on Page 14

Joint Meeting Looks at Revaluation

"The number one question is 'what does this mean in terms of my taxes?'" said Appraisal Systems, Inc. head Ernest F. DelGuercio, Sr., at Monday evening's joint meeting of the Township Committee and the Borough Council on the coming revaluation, and that probably explained why there were few empty seats in the Township Municipal Building's main meeting room.

Tax Assessor for both the Borough and the Township Neal Snyder opened the meeting by encouraging residents to refer to the online site of frequently-asked-questions about revaluation prepared by his office (www.princetonwp.org/revalqawebques.pdf). After that, the meeting essentially belonged to Mr. DelGuercio and his associates, who took turns walking the audience through "a brief but comprehensive overview of the program."

The "very lengthy process" will begin shortly after the New Year. The Princeton's last revaluation was in 1996, and in response to an audience member's question at the end of the meeting about the frequency of revaluation, Mr. Snyder said that despite the common perception that they are supposed to happen every ten years, there are no set time frames; it occurs when the Mercer County Board of Taxation orders it.

The "statutory scheme" that informs the revaluation process, according to Mr. DelGuercio, includes "two demands: that all properties be assessed at 100 percent of their true market value (i.e., what a willing buyer would pay a willing seller), and that assessments must be guided by the same standards of value. He noted that those precepts are particularly important in New Jersey, which is "number one in relying on property taxes for budgetary purposes."

"The revaluation process must be direct and transparent," emphasized Mr. DelGuercio. Homeowners will probably want to bookmark Appraisal System Inc.'s website (www.asnj.com), where collected data will be posted. They will also receive "introductory letters" informing them

about the process, which will begin with inspections of both the interior and exterior of every privately owned home in the Borough and Township.

A first "unannounced" visit by an Appraisal Systems inspector will occur between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. It was noted that each inspector will have an ID and will be authorized by the local Police Departments. Residents were advised not to allow anyone in their homes without an ID, and told that they may call the Police Department "before allowing anyone in your home if you have any concerns." Inspectors will not enter homes where the homeowner is not present, or if only a minor is present. If no one is home on the first visit, they will leave a notice giving

Continued on Page 16

Princeton University and Robertson Family Reach Settlement On Dispute

Ending a six-year lawsuit, Princeton University and the Robertson Family have reached a settlement agreement that will dissolve the Robertson Foundation, reimburse the Banbury Fund for legal expenses incurred, and create a new foundation.

Most of the monies from the Robertson Foundation will go into an endowment fund at Princeton that will be controlled by

the University

In addition, the Foundation will reimburse the Banbury Fund, a foundation that is run by the Robertson family, \$40 million for legal expenses incurred. The first settlement payment is scheduled for 2009 and will be \$20 million, while \$10 million per year will be transferred in the following two years.

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CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS: Members of Congress, corporations, scientific organizations, and universities gathered at Princeton University in Chancellor Green on Monday for a roundtable discussion about how investment in scientific research and innovation can spur sustainable economic growth. Pictured here (from left) are Edward Markey (D-Mass.), Rush Holt (D-N.J.), PU president Shirley Tilghman, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, and Bart Gordon (D-Tenn.). Mr. Holt remarked that "we cannot view research and development as a luxury to be invested in only during good economic times. Rather, it is vital to our economic growth and quality of life."

(Photo by Dianne P. ...)

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I need ideas!

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- ★ Gift Certificate for Spa Services at **Metropolis Spa & Salon**. That special card-from **Jordan's**.
- ★ "1000 Recordings To Hear Before You Die" available at **Chicklet Books**.
- ★ An antique treasure from **One of a Kind Consignment**.
- ★ Portraits make great gifts and capture precious moments for a lifetime, get her a Gift Certificate to the **The Portrait Studio at Image Arts**.
- ★ A computerized Singer Sewing Machine for only \$199 or a Janome Heavy Sewing Machine for only \$119 at **American Sewing & Vacuum Center**.
- ★ A Fragrance gift set from **Rite Aid**.
- ★ The best new debut novel of the year, "The Story of Edgar Sawtelle", available at **Chicklet Books**.
- ★ Chocolate pearls from **Marlowe's Jewelry Repairs**.
- ★ Powerful Bosch Vacuum \$199 for a limited time at **American Sewing & Vacuum Center**.

Gifts For Him

- ★ Tools by ACE, Stanley, Black & Decker, Dewalt and more from **Smith's ACE Hardware**.
- ★ "The Story of Edgar Sawtelle", the best new debut novel of the year at **Chicklet Books**.
- ★ Gift Certificate for a massage at **Metropolis Spa & Salon**.
- ★ "1,000 Recordings To Hear Before You Die" & add an iTunes gift card to complete the gift from that funky book store, **Chicklet Books**.
- ★ Zagat 2009 Restaurant Guide sold at **Jordan's Cards & Gifts**.
- ★ Keep him warm on the slopes in Patagonia, North Face Mammot, Arc-Teryx, Mountain Hardwear, and Montrail, available at **Blue Ridge Mountain Sports**. (Pssst: Save 20% off all Patagonia products ONE DAY ONLY Dec. 20th!!).

Gifts For the Kids

- ★ Gingerbread Train kit (no baking required) & silicone bakeware sets from **Smith's Ace Housewares**.
- ★ Bear Claw Gloves, Smile Face & Peace Watches from **Incredible Me**.
- ★ Christmas Crackers from **Jordan's Cards & Gifts**.
- ★ Of course there is the classic Playmobile, but there's also Sticky Mosaic kits (mosaic by numbers), Melissa & Doug Magic Kits and great Praying Mantis kits, just a few of the great educational fun toys at **Learning Express**.

Gifts for the "Big Kids"

- ★ Notebook with Built-In Mobile Broadband Internet for \$99.99 (with 2 yr ATT air card agreement) or a Kodak Pocket High Definition Video Camera for \$159 available at **Radio Shack**.
- ★ **Dunkin Donuts** Gift Card.
- ★ Keep the ones who left the nest warm with Patagonia, North Face, Mammot, Arc-Teryx, Mountain Hardwear, and Montrail, available at **Blue Ridge Mountain Sports**. (Pssst: Save 20% off all Patagonia products ONE DAY ONLY Dec. 20th!!).
- ★ Gift Card to **GREAT Clips**.

Gifts for the Relatives

- ★ A croquet set from **Smith's Ace Hardware**.
- ★ Popular AS SEEN ON TV items available at **Smith's ACE Hardware** and **Rite Aid**.
- ★ Chia Pets from **Rite Aid**.

Gifts for the Hostess

- ★ Nordicware Bundt cake mixes and Holiday dish towels from **Smith's Ace Housewares**.
- ★ Hand painted martini or wine glasses from **Jordan's Cards & Gifts**.
- ★ Handcrafted Tea Light Lotus Flower Candleholders & Terra Cotta Ornaments from **Ten Thousand Villages**.
- ★ Le Jacquard Francais Linen Towels from **Princeton Bath & Kitchen**.

Gifts For the Teens

- ★ #1 on every teenager's list is any book from the Twilight Series by Stephanie Meyer... Available in a BOX SET of all 4 volumes, and individual titles, available at **Chicklet Books**.
- ★ ipod or jazzy telescope desk lamp from **The Light Gallery**.
- ★ They'll impress their friends in Patagonia, North Face, Mammot, Arc-Teryx, Mountain Hardwear, and Montrail, available at **Blue Ridge Mountain Sports**. (Pssst: Save 20% off all Patagonia products ONE DAY ONLY Dec. 20th!!)
- ★ She would love the ionic steam straightener from **Rite Aid**.
- ★ Go Little Tigers!!-**Smith's Ace Hardware** has Princeton High School memorabilia items. They also have a portable DVD Player for \$49.99 with rebate!
- ★ **Camillo's Café** gift certificate.

Gifts for the "Foodie"

- ★ Fresh Winter Perigord Black Truffles, Homemade Brie with Black Truffle Tartufata, Holiday Rouge River Blue Cheese, Baby Stilton Cheese, Italian Burrata Cheese and other individual specialty decorated cheeses all available at **Bon Appetit**.
- ★ Emile Henry Flame dutch ovens, Swiss Diamond Cookware, Shun Asian Cutlery & Kyocera Ceramic Knives, Mandolins and Peelers at **Smith's Ace Housewares**.
- ★ **Camillo's Café** gift certificate.

Stocking Stuffers

- ★ **Dunkin Donut** Gift Cards.
- ★ iTunes cards from **Radio Shack**.

★ Kooky Pens from **Jordans**.

★ Flashing holiday necklace-**Jordan's**.

Gifts for the Teachers, etc.

- ★ **Radio Shack** Gift Card.
- ★ **Dunkin Donuts** Gift Card.
- ★ **Metropolis** Gift Certificate.

Corporate Gifts

- ★ Custom Gourmet Gift Baskets from **Bon Appetit**.
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SONGS OF SOLOMON: This year marks the 20th anniversary of Jon Solomon's annual 24-hour holiday show on WPRB, 103.3 FM, which will run live from 6 p.m. on December 24 to 6 p.m. on December 25. The local radio legend has been hosting the show since he was 15, and plays holiday-related music ranging from pieces by "bands that you like" to "more bizarre historical artifacts" like a version of "Jingle Bells" played on car horns. His favorites include a Frank Sinatra/Dean Martin version of "It's a Marshmallow World" and "The Christmas Song," which has "the right sentiments to it." Ultimately, "if something is done with a really clever reinterpretation, then it will certainly catch my fancy," he said.

(Photo by D. Ishane Perera)

Rockin' Around WPRB: Jon Solomon Conjures Up Some Holiday Radio Magic

'Twas the night before Christmas for Jon Solomon, or it will be as he hosts the 24-hour holiday radio show on WPRB, the Princeton University station. This year marks his show's 20th incarnation and promises to feature newfangled odes to the holiday spirit, old favorites, forgotten esoterica, and

other seasonal jams.

The holiday radio show will be broadcast live on WPRB 103.3 FM and via the internet at wprb.com from December 24 at 6 p.m. to December 25 at 6 p.m.

then all hell breaks loose," joked Mr. Solomon. "Usually the first eight hours are kind of insane" he mused, noting that during the middle eight he plays longer cuts of various things, a Golden Books reading of *Santa Claus Conquers the Martians*, for example: "And then the last

Continued on Next Page

TOPICS Of the Town

The music is "everything from bands that you like that you never knew did a Christmas song" to "more bizarre historical artifacts" like using car horns or sampling dogs and splicing together a holiday song from their barks.

"I like the challenge of having this limitation, and finding everything that fits under this heading. It's a mixture of things that are really great, things that will amuse people, and things that I think people will really enjoy as songs that happen to be holiday songs," explained Mr. Solomon.

Eschewing the extremes of being either "too kitschy" or "too reverent," Mr. Solomon's show aims to juxtapose "styles and genres and sounds in a way that makes sense, like switching between an old record from 30 years ago or some old funk 45 and abutting that next to some contemporary guitar-bass rock band whose record hasn't even come out yet" in a way that is surprising and interesting.

A Princeton native ("My folks moved to Princeton the day I was born."), Mr. Solomon also hosts a weekly radio show, "Keeping the Score at Home" on Wednesdays from 7 to 10 p.m. on WPRB, founded and operates the record labels My Pal God Records and Comedy Minus One, and is the founding editor of *princeton-basketball.com*.

Over the years, Mr. Solomon has amassed all kinds of holiday-related music, and continues to seek out new songs. During each holiday show nothing is played twice, and Mr. Solomon likes to add as many new songs from year to year as possible. "I'm startled by how much quality stuff I've built up," he remarked while noting that striking the right balance between playing new and old music and listener requests is paramount.

"I like to think every year that I'm prepared — but

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Jon Solomon

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third is not as wild, but it's just all adrenaline."

Having developed a cult following over the two decades the show has aired, Mr. Solomon found almost by accident that listeners were tuning in from all corners of the world. After his sister had called from South America, and he had heard from people in the U.S. and Europe, he said jokingly on air that "we need to get Asia and Australia to check in" and immediately the phone rang with greetings from listeners on those continents.

"This is one of the great things about radio — you never really know who's listening," Mr. Solomon observed. "You can be as involved or as passive as you want with it, and that's fine by me."

As for particularly poignant holiday radio show moments, "In 2003 my wife and I got engaged on air," Mr. Solomon recounted. "I called her over onto the microphone and we were having a conversation and I was extremely nervous. And then finally out came a ring."

"I think she was really surprised and it was in the absolute dead of night — 5:20 I think it was. And we immediately got lots of calls from people saying, 'I can't believe I'm up, and I can't believe that happened!'"

Mr. Solomon remembers there was a "big time slot on Christmas available" after he passed his training as a DJ in 1988, and that he "was pretty excited by the possibility and didn't have anything to do." He enjoyed the experience, "both playing records for such a long time and interacting with people who would call," so much that he signed up for 24-hours the following year.

"It's an incredible feeling. I started out doing this because I was just helping to fill a block of time. I didn't expect that 20 years down the line that there would be this thing that people seem to really appreciate," Mr. Solomon said, adding with a laugh that "it was a little bit alarming last year to realize that I have been doing this show longer than the freshman undergrads here have been alive. I'd like to think that I'm not an old man by any stretch, but that made me feel pretty ancient."

A pivotal year for the show was 1996. Mr. Solomon had just graduated from North-

western University and decided to drive out to California instead of heading to Princeton for the holiday radio marathon. While on the road in Nebraska on Christmas day, "I realized that I had made a horrible mistake," Mr. Solomon recalled. "That reminded me of how important it was to me, and I needed that critical juncture to either veer left and say, 'this is not something I do anymore,' or veer right and do it the next year."

"Ultimately it's a feeling and an experience that I don't have anywhere else, and not one that I want to give up," Mr. Solomon explained, saying that "the show brings out in me all of the sort of good holiday sentiments that I don't know if Christmas proper gets out of me."

"Being around family and knowing that old friends are going to stop by or call and people you haven't thought about in a long time might check in" is what evokes the holiday spirit for Mr. Solomon, who described being the "catalyst" for those connections as, "not a bad position to be in, and also not one that I take lightly."

"I can't imagine being anywhere else on Christmas," he said.

—Dilshanie Perera

Mercer County Executive Hospitalized on Sunday

Mercer County Executive Brian M. Hughes was hospitalized at the University Medical Center at Princeton on Sunday after suffering what his doctors later determined was cardiac arrest. By Sunday evening Mr. Hughes was reported to be in good spirits and resting comfortably.

The County Executive fell ill during the afternoon while walking the family dog in his Princeton Township neighborhood. A neighbor called for an ambulance, and Mr. Hughes was immediately transported to the Medical Center.

Doctors determined that Mr. Hughes had a blocked artery and performed surgery later in the day to insert a stent. He is expected to make a full and speedy recovery, his doctors said, and should be released from the Medical Center in a few days.

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Topics In Brief A Community Bulletin

Township resident **Liz Lempert** was sworn in last night as a member of Princeton Township Committee, filling the seat vacated by recently retired Mayor Phyllis Marchand. Ms. Lempert, who was co-chair of the Mercer County for Obama campaign organization and is vice chair of the Princeton Township Municipal Democratic Committee (PTMDC), was one of three candidates presented to the Committee by the PTMDC. The others were David Cohen and Jon Durbin. The Township Committee will name Ms. Marchand's replacement as Mayor at its reorganization meeting on January 4. The other current members of the Committee are Deputy Mayor Bernie Miller, Chad Goerner, Lance Liverman, and Vicky Bergman. Sue Nemeth was recently elected to replace Ms. Bergman, who is retiring at the end of the year.

Borough Council will hold a public meeting on December 23 at 5:30 p.m. in Borough Hall to discuss the 2009 budget.

The **YWCA Princeton** currently is accepting nominations for **Tribute to Women 2009 Awards**. Selected nominees will be honored at the annual awards dinner, to be held on Thursday, March 5, at the Hyatt Regency Princeton. A nominee can be a professional, elected official, educator, business entrepreneur, or volunteer from the public or private sectors. Each nominee's accomplishments should reflect the YWCA's mission of eliminating racism and empowering women. To obtain a nomination form, or for more information about the Tribute to Women awards dinner, visit www.ywcaprinceton.org or call (609) 497-2100, ext. 316. Nominations must be completed and postmarked by December 19 to be considered.

Climate Central Working Hard, Using Media, To Collect and Disseminate Information

"Climate change is not a problem *du jour*," observed Berrien Moore III, executive director and senior research scientist at Climate Central, a recently created, Princeton-based science and media group that seeks, according to its website, "to provide clear and objective information about climate change and its potential solutions."

"I think that we all need to recognize that this problem is going to be with us for a century," said the co-winner of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize, who left a longtime position as Director of the Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans, and Space at the University of New Hampshire to become the founding director of Climate Central. "That's the nature of the carbon dioxide system. Carbon dioxide stays a long time in the atmosphere, and it's not going to change easily."

Education

Solutions, according to Mr. Moore, lie in an informed populace. "We have an inherent belief that people, in particular in a democracy, make better decisions when they have information," he said, adding that he is aware that he may not always like the decisions an educated public will make. No matter; the goal of Climate Central is to use available media to convey "clear, easy-to-understand information about this very complex topic, about which a great deal of misinformation has been circulated. We want to inform people, not persuade them."

Climate Central's staff includes both research scientists and communications ex-

perts, and Mr. Moore uses the word "bridging" often, as he describes the concurrent processes of gathering scholarly, peer-reviewed material in scientific documents like IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) reports ("the best crystallization of the science"), and making it available, in less technical form through public broadcasting, magazines, and the press. A heavy emphasis is on video and the Internet. "We're excited about providing programming for *The News Hour* with Jim Lehrer," said Mr. Moore. "I think that we're different from many similar organizations who've dealt with climate change through a political agenda. We're not going to lobby for anything, other than the best scientific information."

Asked about scientist Freeman Dyson's recent dismissive writings and talks on global warming, Mr. Moore observed that "Freeman Dyson is a terribly bright physicist, but this problem is more than physics. It involves very complex biology and chemistry, public policy, and human behavior. His article in the *New York Review of Books* erred on some basic facts about biology."

Non-Profit

Climate Central, which recently received non-profit status, was established in early 2008 with seed money from the Flora Family Foundation, a Menlo Park, California foundation created and run by the family of William Hewlett, co-founder of the Hewlett-Packard Company, and his late wife, Flora. It also received development funds from the 11th Hour Project, a San Francisco-based

operation that describes itself as connecting "organizations, businesses and individuals to one another, resources and information to create a sustainable world. We work to change public perceptions about climate crisis from hand-wringing hopelessness to engaged, hands-on problem solving." The 11th Hour Project continues to be Climate Central's major source of support.

In addition to the hive of activity at its 1 Palmer Square headquarters, Climate Central

has a two-person operation in Palo Alto — again, "to bridge" the country. (Climate Central's focus is national at this point, according to Mr. Moore, because "the American body politic is in need of information on this topic.") The presence of public policy institutes, federal laboratories, and engineering departments at both Princeton and Stanford make them congenial to Climate Central's concerns, he noted. Several Princeton faculty members are on the non-profit's board.

Obama's Choices

Mr. Moore is optimistic about the coming Obama administration's intentions to address climate problems. Noting that Mr.

McCain also "understood the seriousness of the problem" and had a very strong record of support for climate research efforts in the Senate, Mr. Moore went on to say that President-elect Obama's appointments and actions so far have been "unwavering and clear." He is particularly pleased with Mr. Obama's choice of Steven Chu as energy secretary, and several days after Mr. Moore was interviewed, a *New York Times* editorial ("Mr. Obama's Green Team") also lauded the choice of Mr. Chu and other Obama appointments.

In his comments Mr. Moore suggested that there actually may be a silver lining in

the country's bleak economic condition. With the need for "strong action," to address the economic downturn, Mr. Moore observed, "green jobs are a perfectly legitimate economic strategy."

For more information on Climate Central, see www.climatecentral.org, which is, Mr. Moore noted, "very much a work in progress. For a website to work, it has to be information-rich and interactive. There's a dialog that takes place, and we want to make that dialog rewarding, and we want to make sure that misinformation is not being passed."

— Ellen Gilbert

5 • TOWN TOPICS, PRINCETON, N.J., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2008

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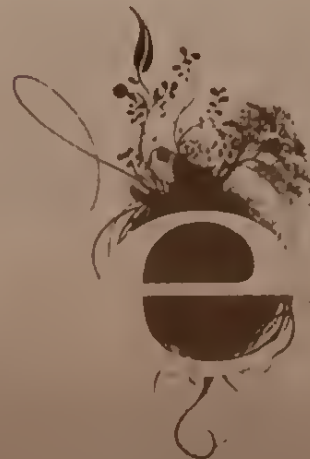


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Residential Colleges Lead Energy Conservation Effort

Two of Princeton University residential colleges, Rockefeller and Mathey, will compete to achieve the greatest energy use reductions in an energy conservation campaign.

Student organizers and engineering staff in the University's Department of Facilities will track students' energy consumption in the Rockefeller and Mathey undergraduate dormitories. At the conclusion of the week, the dorm that consumes the least amount of energy per resident will be declared the winner. The residents of the winning dorm will receive T-shirts and the winning college will receive a trophy made out of discarded light bulbs from the Princeton Light Bulb Exchange initiative.

The energy conservation competition was the brainchild of Students United for a Responsible Global Environment (SURGE), a campus-based student group focusing on climate change awareness and action. To run the competition, SURGE is collaborating with the University's residential colleges, the Greening Princeton student group, Residential College Advisers and the EcoReps, a group of students who help promote sustainability in Princeton dormitories.

The competition is also designed to feed into the Pull-the-Plug program, another SURGE-led student initiative to reduce wasteful energy use in student dorms over winter break. Organizers hope the energy conservation competition also will encourage other campus initiatives promoting sustainability and civic engagement.

Sponsors of the competition include Rockefeller, Mathey and Forbes residential colleges, the Undergraduate Student Government Projects Board, the Office of Sustainability, and the Woodrow Wilson School's Science, Technology and Environmental Policy (STEP) program.

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Regional Planning Board Reviews Seminary Plan for Speer Demolition

The Regional Planning Board heard Princeton Theological Seminary's concept review last Thursday for the demolition of Speer Library and the construction of a new library in its place. No action was taken, but many members of the Board seemed to feel that while demolition would be appropriate, the Borough's Historic Preservation Review Committee (HPRC) should take another look at the Seminary's proposal.

Opposition to the demolition stems from the fact that Speer Library, built in 1956, is unique in its Art Deco Collegiate Gothic architectural style and is located in the historic Mercer Hill district of Princeton.

A "demolition ordinance," which is part of the Borough's Municipal Land Use Ordinance does not allow for demolition unless the building conforms to certain standards or if the preservation of the building is considered particularly problematic for the applicant. No demolitions have been permitted in the Mercer Hill area since 1985.

The argument presented by members of Princeton Theological Seminary for the demolition of Speer hinges on use of the space, and the fact that the current building limits the ease of using the library's collection.

The James Lennox Librarian at the Seminary Stephen Crocco noted that

Speer lacks natural light and is running out of room for books. The cost of renovation would be about the same as the demolition and building of a new, purposefully designed structure, he said.

Planning Board member Jacqueline Tillman noted that if buildings "have outlived their usefulness, now is the time to correct something that should have been done in the past," but recommended sending the case back to HPRC for further review.

Expressing similar sentiments, board member Marvin Reed said that the presentations made during the evening were "enough to convince me that the Seminary needs a new library and a new building" but he remained unsure whether that it would be an "undue hardship" if the Speer Library building were preserved.

Bernie Miller, also a member of the Planning Board as well as the acting mayor for Princeton Township, agreed

that he would like to see specifics sent to the board from HPRC, while Vicky Bergman of the Planning Board thought that an adequate case had been made in favor of the demolition.

"Our institutions are integral to the fabric of this community, and will be here after we are gone," Ms. Bergman said, adding that the Seminary "deserves a building that matches the quality of its collection."

Wanda Gunning of the Planning Board noted that "every building in Princeton has someone who loves it," and also that "demolition is not something that starts here." She, too, suggested that HPRC take another look at the proposal.

— Dilshanie Perera

11 Births Reported At Princeton Hospital

The Princeton HealthCare System has reported 11 births the week of December 12, 2008.

Sons were born to Sushma Padigala and Sureddhar Boyeneni, Lawrenceville, December 8; Heather and Richard Christie, Pennington, December 5; Katherine and Thomas Matthey, Princeton Junction, December 8; Burcu Tezcan and Lionel Ruggeri, Lawrence, December 8; Stacy Saunders Hartog and Jacob Hartog, Pennington, December 8; Pooja and Pradeep Gande, West Windsor, December 8; Keneshia and Axel Haensen, Princeton, December 9; Nicole and Michael C. Bates, Pennington, December 10; and Jill and Raphael Cohen, Lawrenceville, December 11.

Daughters were born to Krista Lee and Tracey Wade, Pennington, December 7; and Elisa Guo and Gang Llu, Princeton, December 11.

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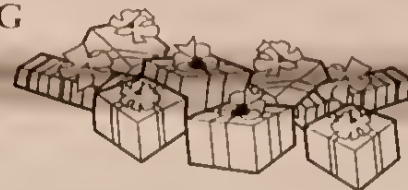
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HOSPICE VOLUNTEERS THANKED: New Jersey Commissioner of Health and Senior Services Heather Howard and New Jersey Hospital Association President and CEO Betsy Ryan recently met with Princeton HomeCare Services Hospice Program volunteers to thank them for the care they provide to terminally ill patients and their families in central New Jersey. The Hospice Program cared for nearly 500 patients and family members last year. Princeton HomeCare Services is a unit of Princeton HealthCare System (PHCS). Pictured, (from left): Hospice Nurse Manager Naomi McCarty; Hospice Assistant Team Manager Joy Taylor; Hospice Volunteer Coordinator Maureen Marchetta; President and CEO New Jersey Hospital Association Elizabeth Ryan; Hospice Assistant Team Manager Karen Newell; New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services Commissioner Heather Howard; Executive Director Princeton HomeCare Services Barbara Yost; Director of Nursing, Princeton HomeCare Services Donna Gustafson; and PHCS Vice President, Government and Community Affairs Pam Hersh. For volunteer opportunities, contact Maureen Marchetta, Princeton HomeCare Services Hospice Program Volunteer Coordinator, at (609) 497-4959.

(Photo by Gilbert Derry)

Princeton Public Library Hosts Children's Events

The weeks surrounding the winter holidays are packed with events for children and their families at the Princeton Public Library.

Heading the list is the California-based Puppetarium Theatre's rendition of *The Frog Prince*, the story of a young princess who learns to keep her promise, with a show on Saturday, December 20, at 3:30 p.m. Performed by the handmade puppets, the production will feature original costumes and a new libretto.

"Stories for a Winter's Day" follows on Saturday, December 27 at 3:30 p.m., when members of the Princeton Storytellers Circle share their favorite winter tales with children ages 6 and older and their parents.

A concert by award-winning singer, songwriter, and storyteller Kenny Woods at 3:30 p.m. will be one of two highlights on December 28. The other, Family Coloring, for children ages 5 through 10 and their parents, follows at 4:30 p.m. This activity, which helps develop

coordination and encourages artistic expression, will use famous American paintings as its theme.

Snow stories, snow crafts, snow films, snowflake-cutting, and other snow-related activities for kids ages 3 through 10 and their parents will highlight the library's annual "Snow Day Monday" on December 29 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

A small, waste-collecting robot of the future inadvertently embarks on a space journey that will ultimately decide the fate of mankind in the recently-released movie *WALL-E*, which will be screened on Tuesday, December 30 at 2 p.m.

All Princeton Public Library programs are free and open to the public. The physically challenged may contact the library at (609) 924-9529 48 hours before any program with questions about special accommodations.

Senior Resource Center Hosts Medication Seminar

CVS pharmacist Sam Proccini will present a seminar on "Medicare Part D and Medication Concerns" at the Princeton Senior Resource Center (PSRC) in the Suzanne Patterson Building, 45 Stockton Street, on Friday, December 19, at 12 noon. Participants may bring sandwiches for lunch, and will be encouraged to ask questions.

Medicare Part D open enrollment is currently underway, through December 31, reported Senior Resource Center Executive Director Susan W. Hoskins

recently. During this time participants can change their prescription drug plan. Almost all plans will change in 2009, she noted. Changes may include the cost of premiums, the formulary (what drugs are covered and at what cost), whether employer plans will continue to cover retirees, and whether PAAD (Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled) will require plan changes. "It is critical to review the materials sent by your plan and your utilization to see if they will continue to be a good match," said Ms. Hoskins, noting that year-end is also a good time to review all medications with a pharmacist. Many people experience changes in their medication regimen over the course of the year.

The December 19 program is supported by a grant from the Princeton Alcohol and Drug Alliance through the Mercer County Office on Addiction Services and the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse.

For pre-registration and more information, call PSRC at (609) 924-7108.

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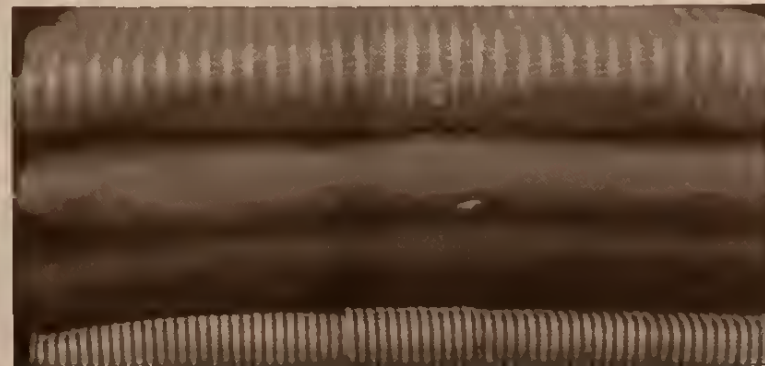
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PHS Coach Arrested On Second Degree Sexual Assault Charge

Princeton High School Coach James D. Kearney, Jr., of Columbus, N.J., was arrested December 5 by detectives from the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office and the Princeton Township Police Office on two counts of second degree sexual assault. Accused of having a sexual relationship with a 17-year-old high school student, he was released after posting bail in the amount of \$50,000. According to school district officials, Mr. Kearney, who also teaches physical education at the Joyce Kilmer Elementary School in Trenton, has been suspended. Anyone with information regarding the investigation should contact the Mercer County Prosecutor's Child Abuse/Sex Assault unit at (609) 989-6568.

Princeton Township

On December 13 at 12:12 a.m. Township police responded to a motor vehicle accident in the area of Snowden Lane. Three juvenile males exited the vehicle and started walking down the street. The vehicle was traveling north on Snowden Lane when the driver lost

control and struck a tree. The 17-year-old driver was arrested for DWI, reckless driving, failure to keep right and violation of Provisional Driver's License. He was transported to Capital Health Systems for ankle & shoulder pain. Two passengers aged 16 and 18 were transported to the hospital for minor injuries. Anyone with information regarding the accident is asked to contact Ptl. Matt Solovay at (609) 921-2100.

On December 13 at 4:01 p.m. police responded to a report of a vehicle in the water in the area of Stony Brook on Alexander Street. Amila Sarac, 29, of Lawrenceville, pressed the gas instead of the brake causing her vehicle to hit a wooden fence and roll down into the Stony Brook. Upon seeing her trapped in her car, Jeffrey Starbuck and Joe Zenobio, both of Princeton, jumped into the brook and pulled her out of the driver's side window to safety. Alexander Street was closed for about an hour while the vehicle was removed from the waterway.

Princeton Township has reported the following warrant arrests:

Wikendy Geffard, 32, of Morrisville, Pa., on December 11, at 7:44 a.m. for a warrant out of the City of Trenton in the amount of \$283, subsequent to a stop on Washington Road for an expired inspection sticker.

He was later released.

Leonardo Ramos, 43, of Trenton, on December 11, at 9:04 a.m. for a warrant out of Bridgewater Municipal Court in the amount of \$750. He was later released.

Christopher Russo, 50, of Ewing, on December 11, at 12:44 p.m. for a warrant out of Wall Township Municipal Court in the amount of \$500. He was later released.

Timothy Hollod, 29, of Franklin Park, on December 12, at 2:44 p.m. for a warrant out of Metuchen Boro in the amount of \$120. He was released pending a new court date.

Princeton Borough

Princeton Borough has reported the following warrant arrests:

Lad Ryan Grapski, 36, of Hightstown, on December 6, at 1:47 p.m. for a warrant out of Plainsboro Township Municipal Court in the amount of \$1,699. He was later released.

Gina Broach, 23, of Hamilton, on December 8, at 6:28 p.m. for a warrant out of Trenton Municipal Court in the amount of \$316. She was later released.

Arthur Owen, 61, of Hamilton, on December 10, at 1:03 p.m. for 2 active warrants out of Hamilton Township Municipal Court in the total amount of \$2,350. He was committed in default of bail.

Thaly Encalade, 21, of Trenton, on December 10, at 10:16 p.m. for an active warrant out of Trenton Municipal Court in the amount of \$289. She was later released.

Bradley Iselin, 24, of Princeton, on December 11, at 12:44 a.m. for an active warrant out of Manasquan Borough Municipal Court in the amount of \$354. He was later released.

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Sugar Addiction Research May Lead to Treatment

A Princeton University scientist has recently presented evidence demonstrating that sugar can be an addictive substance, wielding its power over the brains of lab animals in a manner similar to many drugs of abuse.

Professor Bart Hoebel and his team in the Department of Psychology and the Princeton Neuroscience Institute have been studying signs of sugar addiction in rats for years. Until now, the rats under study have met two of the three elements of addiction. They have demonstrated a behavioral pattern of increased intake and then showed signs of withdrawal. His current experiments captured craving and relapse to complete the picture.

"We have the first set of comprehensive studies showing the strong suggestion of sugar addiction in rats and a mechanism that might underlie it," Mr. Hoebel said. The findings eventually could have implications for the treatment of humans with eating disorders, he said.

Lab animals in Mr. Hoebel's experiments that were denied sugar for a prolonged period after learning to get

it when it was reintroduced to them. They consumed more sugar than they ever had before, suggesting craving and relapse behavior. "In this case, abstinence makes the heart grow fonder," Mr. Hoebel said.

The rats also consumed more alcohol than normal after their sugar supply was cut off, showing that the bingeing behavior had forged changes in brain function. These functions served as "gateways" to other paths of destructive behavior, such as increased alcohol intake. And, after receiving a dose of amphetamine normally so minimal it has no effect, they became significantly hyperactive. The increased sensitivity to the psychostimulant is a long-lasting brain effect that can be a component of addiction, Mr. Hoebel said.

While Mr. Hoebel called the findings "exciting," he suggested that more research is needed to understand the implications for people. The most obvious application for humans would be in the field of eating disorders.

"It seems possible that the brain adaptations and behavioral signs seen in rats may occur in some individuals with binge-eating disorder or bulimia," Mr. Hoebel said. "Our work provides

links between the traditionally defined substance-use disorders, such as drug addiction, and the development of abnormal desires for natural substances. This knowledge might help us to devise new ways of diagnosing and treating addictions in people."

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Daughters were born to Krista Lee and Tracey Wade, Pennington, December 7; and Elisa Guo and Gang Liu, Princeton, December 11.



SLOW FOOD: Nikoya Lightbourne of Lightbourne Friends and Farmers Market demonstrates the finer points of making an apple pie Saturday during Slow Food Central New Jersey's Eat Slow/Eat Local Winter Market at O&R Greenway Land Trust's Johnson Education Center. The event featured cooking demonstrations and musical entertainment, along with locally grown foods.

(Photo by George Vogel)



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EAT LOCAL: Bo Child of Village Bakery with the staff of life at the Eat Slow/Eat Local Winter Market Saturday at O&R Greenway's Johnson Education Center. Organized in collaboration with the Lawrenceville Main Street Farmers Market, the Rutgers Gardens Farmers Market and the West Windsor Community Farmers Market, this series of winter markets is in its fourth year. For a complete list of the monthly market dates, locations, and vendors, call (609) 577-5113, or visit www.slowfoodcentralnj.org.

by George Vogel

PU Scientists Find Element Vital to Rainforest Health

A team of researchers led by Princeton University scientists has found for the first time that tropical rainforests, a vital part of the Earth's ecosystem, rely on the rare trace element molybdenum to capture the nitrogen fertilizer needed to support their growth. Most of the nitrogen that supports the rapid, lush growth of rainforests comes from tiny bacteria that can turn nitrogen in the air into fertilizer in the soil.

Until now, scientists had thought that phosphorus was the key element supporting the prodigious expansion of rainforests, according to Lars Hedin, a professor of ecol-

ogy and evolutionary biology at Princeton University who led the research. But an experiment testing the effects of various elements on test plots in lowland rainforests on the Gigante Peninsula in the Barro Colorado Nature Monument in Panama showed that areas treated with molybdenum withdrew more nitrogen from the atmosphere than other elements.

"We were surprised," said Mr. Hedin, who is also a professor in the Princeton Environmental Institute. "It's not what we were expecting."

The report is detailed in the December 7 online edition of Nature Geoscience, and will be the journal's cov-

er story in its print edition.

The team found that molybdenum is essential for controlling the biological conversion of nitrogen in the atmosphere into natural soil nitrogen fertilizer, which in turn spurs plant growth. "Just like trace amounts of vitamins are essential for human health, this exceedingly rare trace metal is indispensable for the vital function of tropical rainforests in the larger Earth system," Mr. Hedin said. Molybdenum is 10,000 times less abundant than phosphorus and other major nutrients in these ecosystems.

The discovery has implications for global climate change policy, the scientists said. Previously, researchers knew little about rainforests' capacity to absorb the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide. If molybdenum is central to the biochemical processes involved in the uptake of carbon dioxide, then there may be limits to how much carbon tropical rainforests can absorb.

The biological enzyme, nitrogenase, which converts atmospheric nitrogen into soil fertilizer, feeds on molybdenum, the researchers found. "Nitrogenase without molybdenum is like a car engine without spark plugs," said Alexander Baron, the lead author on the paper, who was a graduate student in Hedin's laboratory and earned his Ph.D. in ecology and evolutionary biology from Princeton in 2007 and who now is working on climate legislation in Congress.

Other authors on the paper from Princeton include:

Anne Kraepiel, an associate research scholar in the Department of Chemistry; Nina Wurzbarger, a research associate in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology; and Jean Philippe Belenger, an associate research scholar in the Princeton Environmental Institute. S. Joseph Wright, who earned his bachelor's degree in biology from Princeton in 1974 and now is a staff scientist at the Smithsonian Tropical Institute in Panama, is also a contributing author.

Molybdenum, a lustrous, silvery metal, is found in soil, rock and sea water and in a range of enzymes vital to human health. Traces of the element have been found in Japanese swords dating back to the 14th century. In modern times, its high strength, good electrical conductivity and anticorrosive properties have made molybdenum desirable as an element of rocket engines, radiation shields, light bulb filaments and circuit boards.

The research was conducted with support from the National Science Foundation, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Smithsonian Scholarly Studies program, the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute student fellowship program and the Environmental Protection Agency student fellowship program.

Wedding



Valerie Ng and Christopher Deneen

Ng-Deneen. Valerie Ng, daughter of Yau Kam Ng and Yun Sim Chan of Hong Kong, to Christopher Deneen, son of James and Thalia Deneen of Princeton, October 11 in Hong Kong. The wedding officiant was Nicholas Lo, a Hong Kong city official. The reception was at Hong Kong's Royal Plaza Hotel.

The bride, a graduate of Diocesan Girls' School and Northcote College of Education, both in Hong Kong, was given in marriage by her father. She is a manager for Verizon in New York City.

The maid of honor was the bride's sister, Natalie Ng.

Mr. Deneen is a graduate of St. George's School, Newport, R.I.; Trinity University, San Antonio, Texas; Indiana University, where he earned his Master of Arts in Teaching; and Teachers College, Columbia University, where he earned his doctorate. He is a dean and associate professor at Touro College in New York City. His best man was Mark Swartzburg, a friend from Princeton's Chapin School.

The couple took a wedding trip to Taiwan and Japan. They reside in Brooklyn, N.Y.

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Main Street Bistro Review

Main Street bistro has been around for a long time at it's location in the Princeton Shopping Center (N Harrison St.). We're happy to report that it's aged well and continues to offer a variety of consistently well prepared dishes at very reasonable prices.

The biggest news here is that they've tweaked their "classic menu" adding a section of small plate "grazing items".

We settled into the bar and were well served by two personable barkeeps. After relaxing for a bit with an excellent cabernet by the glass and a perfect martini, we ordered off the grazing menu.

She ordered the mussels (\$12) and I the lamb sliders (\$7). Her mussels, a heaping bowl of large delicacies in a light garlic broth with two slices of rustic bread for dipping. Excellent. My lamb sliders were PERFECT. Two small plump patties with a middle eastern spicing, simply grilled and served on thin pitas with a slice of plum tomato. The sliders were a perfect medium rare and juicy without a bit of grease. Additionally they were served with a traditional tzatziki sauce (greek yogurt/cucumber sauce) - really good.

We then ordered round two. She ordered the Grilled Cubano Wrap (\$11) and I ordered... a follow-up double order... of lamb sliders (\$14). Yeah, they were that good!

We look forward to continued visits here. The place is low key. Has an eclectic clientele with a mix of local scholarly types, society matrons and commoners (like us). Value here is great. The \$7 sliders alone would have been \$14 or more per order at a majority of the newer go to spots in our area!

Goody4life, November 16, 2008

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Robertson Family

continued from page one

The remaining portion of the settlement, totaling \$50 million plus interest, will create the new charitable foundation operated by the Robertson family to assist students in preparing for governmental service. Payment will begin in 2012 and will continue for seven years.

The Robertson Foundation was created in 1961 when Marie Robertson donated \$35 million to the University to support the graduate program at the Woodrow Wilson School.

Decisions are made by the Foundation's board, four members of which, including University president and Board Chair Shirley Tilghman, were appointed by the University, and three of which were appointed by the Robertson family.

In 2002, a vote to change the investment strategy, namely, engaging in professional management of the endowment by the Princeton University Investment Company (PRINCO) split the board. The three Robertson-appointed members filed a lawsuit against three University-appointed board members as well as the University itself, claiming that the University was not handling the monies as the donor had intended.

Between the time PRINCO managed the Foundation's investments beginning in 2004, and the end of fiscal year 2008, the endowment grew from \$561 million to more than \$900 million, though currently the University acknowledges that "the endowment has not been immune to the economy since the last reporting period."

In a release, William Robertson, the lead plaintiff of the *Robertson v. Princeton* case said that "this is a message to nonprofit organizations of all kinds and throughout our country that donors expect them to abide by the terms of designated gifts or suffer the consequences."

A trial date had been scheduled for January 20, 2009, but according to Ms. Tilghman, the University "agreed to this settlement so that we could bring the rapidly escalating legal expenses to a halt before a lengthy trial added even more tens of millions of dollars." It is estimated that each side would have spent an additional \$20 million had the case gone to court.

Even so, Ms. Tilghman described the "expenditure of tens of millions of dollars in legal fees" over the past six years "that could have and should have been spent on educational and charitable purposes" as "tragic."

—Dilshan Perera

Local Fare

from Princeton's kitchens

A Town Topics favorite

Crispy Latkes

Known as a traditional food of Hanukkah, latkes can be enjoyed year round. Made from grated potato and onion then fried in vegetable oil until crispy, this hash brown-like side dish tastes great served with sour cream or applesauce.

2 pounds russet or Yukon Gold baking potatoes, peeled
1 medium onion, peeled
1 tsp salt
1/4 tsp pepper
2 eggs
Sour cream and applesauce (optional)

1. Grate the potatoes and onions in a food processor using a medium-size shredding disk.

2. Wrap a third of the grated potatoes and onions in a clean tea towel and wring out as much moisture as possible. Removing the excess water helps reduce splattering during frying and results in firmer, better-tasting latkes. Empty the towel into a separate bowl and repeat the process with the remaining potatoes, using a clean, dry section of the tea towel each time.

3. Add the salt and pepper to the mixture. Toss to evenly distribute.

4. In a small bowl, beat the eggs with a fork, then pour them over the potatoes and stir to combine. Set the mixture aside, covered with plastic wrap.

5. Heat 2 to 3 tablespoons of vegetable oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium heat. When the oil is hot, drop 3 to 4 mounds of the potato mixture into the skillet. Flatten the mounds with a fork or spatula and fry each side until nicely browned, about 5 minutes per side.

6. Serve the latkes immediately with sour cream or applesauce (or keep them warm on a baking sheet in a 300° F oven).

Makes about 10 latkes.

More to come... Watch this space weekly for Princeton's favorite recipes... Provided by Robin Brouner, Town Topics

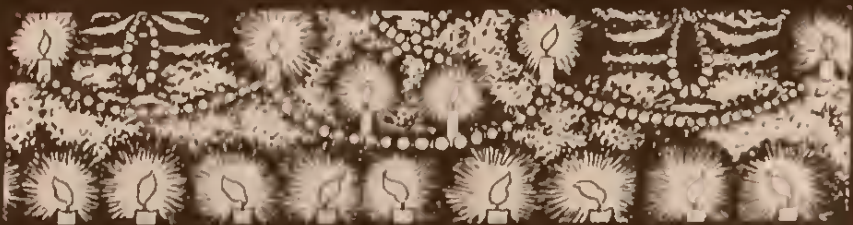
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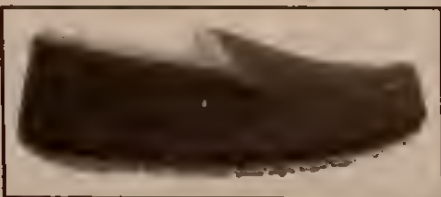
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Mailbox

University's Economic Impact Study Contains Questionable Calculations

Have you read and believed the recent University report on its economic impact on Princeton? If not, do so right away. Amazing, how Princeton University presents its calculation!

Have you ever heard of a businessman who presents revenue as profit, or who cannot distinguish between gross and net?

Has the University overlooked not only the cost factor, but, more importantly, the alternative benefit for the community if all of those buildings were filled with for-profit companies or their employees?

How many thousands of people could be employed and housed in as many and as large taxable buildings as the University's?

How much would all those people spend here?

How many visitors and salesmen would come to these companies to invite their managers to Princeton restaurants? How much would their combined total spending in Princeton be?

One more point: The present students are reported as spending about \$34 million per year in Princeton. Wow! We have fewer than 8,000 students; that means that the average student spends more than \$4,000 per year in Princeton. Our own son, when attending Princeton, certainly did not have that kind of money to throw around. Or does the report figure textbooks, electronics, and other supplies into this amount, all purchased at the University's own store?

What's going on here with presenting such a calculation to the citizens of Princeton? Is there some higher intelligence at the University, or are we thought to be a bit dumb?

I don't want to suggest that the University slowly move to its land south of the lake in West Windsor. No — let's keep our wonderful University here. However, let's also be fair about the University's contribution to our tax burden. How about just 10 to 15 percent of the total of municipal, county, and school burden combined?

HELMUT SCHWAB
Westcott Road

HomeFront Grateful for Community Help In Providing 6,000 Thanksgiving Dinners

To the Editor:

Want to live in a great community? You already do. Once again, our community has demonstrated its caring and commitment to our area's neediest families.

Thanks to literally hundreds of individuals, organizations, corporations, and congregations, HomeFront was able to provide an estimated 6,000 low-income parents and children not only with all the ingredients for a Thanksgiving feast but also with some additional food items for the coming weeks.

We find this generosity particularly overwhelming in these difficult economic times. (Which are, of course, even more challenging for HomeFront families.)

On behalf of all the parents and children who benefited from this tangible evidence of a caring community, I send our most sincere thanks.

CONNIE MERCER
HomeFront, Lawrenceville

Palmer Square Chanukah Celebration To Feature Annual Menorah Lighting

To the Editor:

On Monday night, December 22 at 6 p.m., Palmer Square will host its 14th Annual Menorah Lighting. This year the event takes on a greater significance in that we are including a Moment of Solidarity with the Citizens of Mumbai and the victims of the recent terrorist attacks in that city.

Chanukah is a celebration of light and miracles. In the 30th Psalm, which is associated with this occasion, one of the concluding verses reads, "You turned my mourning into dancing; you loose my sackcloth, and clothe me with garments of joy."

Notwithstanding the fact that there are many stores on Palmer Square and in the Downtown area who would very much like to clothe you with garments of joy, we greatly look forward to your presence at this event.

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Borough Council

continued from page one

suggested ways in which expenses could be reduced. Currently, the 2009 Budget requires \$1.3 million more than that of 2008.

Since the Borough's Finance Committee had proposed goals of not increasing salaries or taxes, Mr. Bruschi noted that the attainability of the goals "will almost entirely be determined by striking the balance of cutting services and raising taxes."

Characterizing the situation as one in which "staff and Council are going to have difficult choices to make," Mr. Bruschi suggested requiring Borough departments to maintain the same operating expense as this year and to reduce the size of the staff by not filling vacancies.

After observing a lack of "major opportunities to increase revenue," Mr. Bruschi also cautioned against expecting much aid from the state. Moving refuse collection to once a week, and reassigning human service operations to the County or other organizations were also proposed as ways in which to reduce the monetary burden on the Borough.

Consolidation of the Borough and Township would afford long-term savings, and bringing together services like the police departments and public works would also prove useful, noted Mr. Bruschi.

Council member Roger Martindell urged Council to "start taking action regarding the specific recommendations that Bob is making immediately — not next January," adding, "we must start in 2008."

Council will hold a public meeting on December 23 at 5:30 p.m. to specifically discuss the 2009 budget.

In other news, Neil Shuster was approved as the mediator between Council and downtown developer Nassau HKT in a 5-1 vote. Mr. Martindell voted against the appointment because of language in the contract that limits public comments about the mediation and places a "restriction on things we can say in an open public meeting."

Regarding meetings with the Township, Borough Council approved of drafting a resolution to have four meetings with the Township per year in addition to any joint budget meetings, and that they "would agree on a schedule early in the year and would agree on an agenda a month before the scheduled meeting," added Mr. Goldfarb.

Mr. Martindell pointed out that the previously agreed upon joint meetings with Township Committee had not occurred this year, saying "We really can't rely on voiced agreements with the Township."

"All major agreements need to be in writing between both parties," agreed Mr. Goldfarb.

Council unanimously approved four meetings with Township Committee in 2009.

—Dilshanie Perera

Town Topics

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Calendar

Wednesday, December 17

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.: Holiday Open House; Drumthwacket, 354 Stockton Street. Reservations required; call (609) 683-0057.

Noon: Lecture by Princeton University professor of sociology Paul Starr, "Freedom's Power: The History and Promise of Liberalism"; Jewish Center of Princeton, 435 Nassau Street.

2 and 8 p.m.: A Christmas Carol; Bucks County Playhouse, New Hope, Pa. Also Thursday at 11 a.m. and 8 p.m., Friday at 11 a.m. and 8 p.m., Saturday at 4 and 8 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m.

7:30 p.m.: Princeton Environmental Commission; Room A, Township Municipal Complex.

8 p.m.: Mercer County Symphony Band Winter Concert; Kelsey Theater, Mercer County Community College, West Windsor. Free.

Thursday, December 18

7 p.m.: Lecture by Princeton University Sociology Professor Deborah Kaple on Soviet Gulags; Princeton Public Library. Free.

7:30 p.m.: A Christmas Carol; McCarter Theatre. Also Friday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 1 and 5:30 p.m., Sunday at 1 and 5:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m.: Playwrights' Workshop with Charles Evered, "Evolution of a Writer"; Paul Robeson Center for the Arts, 102 Witherspoon Street.

7:30 p.m.: Eric Mintel Jazz Quartet; Crossing Vineyards and Winery, 1853 Wrightstown Road, Washington Crossing, Pa.

7:30 p.m.: Princeton High School Choir and Orchestra 63rd Annual Winter Concert; Princeton University Chapel. Free.

Friday, December 19

7:30 and 9:30 p.m.: John-

ny Mac and Ray Pinetti; Catch A Rising Star Comedy Club, Hyatt Regency. Also Saturday at 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.

8 p.m.: Actors' NET of Bucks County production of Edward Albee's *Seascape*; The Heritage Center, 635 North Delmor Avenue, Morrisville, Pa. Also Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 6 p.m.

8 p.m.: *Plaid Tidings*; Off-Broadstreet Theatre, 5 South Greenwood Avenue, Hopewell. Also Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

8 p.m.: Voices Chorale concert, *Nowell! Nowell!*; Pennington Presbyterian Church, 13 South Main Street, Pennington.

8:30 p.m.: Jersey Jumpers Swing Dance Holiday Party; Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton, 50 Cherry Hill Road.

Saturday, December 20

1 and 4:30 p.m.: American Repertory Ballet's production of Graham Lustig's *The Nutcracker*; State Theatre, New Brunswick. Also Sunday at 1 and 4:30 p.m.

2 and 4 p.m.: *Lazer Voudeville*; Kelsey Theatre, Mercer County Community College.

3 p.m.: Princeton Symphony Orchestra's Holiday Concert with Princeton High School Choir; Richardson Auditorium.

5 to 7:15 p.m.: Santa Claus visit; Public Ice Skating Center, Mercer County Park, West Windsor.

3:30 p.m.: Puppetarium Theatre presentation of *The Frog Prince*; Princeton Public Library.

7:30 p.m.: Central Jersey Dance Society Holiday Dinner Dance/Party; Suzanne Patterson Center.

8 p.m.: Voices Chorale concert, *Nowell! Nowell!*; St. Paul's Church, Princeton.

8 p.m.: American Boychoir's "Voices of Angels" concert; Princeton University Chapel.

Sunday, December 21

3 p.m.: Café Improv (music, poetry, comedy); Paul Robeson Center for the Arts, 102 Witherspoon Street.

4 p.m.: American Boychoir's "Winter Wonderland" concert; Richardson Auditorium.

Monday, December 22

Recycling

6 p.m.: Annual Menorah Lighting; Hulfish Street North Plaza, Palmer Square.

Tuesday, December 23

7:30 p.m.: A Christmas Carol; McCarter Theatre. Also Wednesday at noon and 4 p.m., Saturday at 1 and 5:30 p.m., Sunday at 1 and 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 24

5:15 p.m.: Annual Christmas Eve Caroling, accompanied by Blawenburg Band; Palmer Square Green. Free.

Thursday, December 25

Christmas Day

Friday, December 26

7:30 and 9:30 p.m.: Gary Delena and Chris Rich; Catch A Rising Star Comedy Club, Hyatt Regency. Also Saturday at 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 27

3:30 p.m.: Stories for a Winter's Day; Princeton Public Library.

Sunday, December 28

Noon: The Fifes & Drums of the Old Barracks Concert (Military Music of the 18th Century); Masonic Temple, Front and Barrack Streets, Trenton. For reservations, call (609) 396-1776.

3:30 p.m.: Kenny Woods concert; Princeton Public Library. Free.

4:30 p.m.: Family Coloring Sunday, Princeton Public Library.

5 and 7 p.m.: "The Music of Ben Franklin: The Glass Armonica in Concert"; Old Barracks Museum, 101 Barrack Street, Trenton. For reservations, call (609) 396-1776.

8 p.m.: Central Jersey Dance Society Argentine Tango dance; Suzanne Patterson Building.

Monday, December 29

7 p.m.: Township Committee; Township Municipal Complex.

8 p.m.: Capitol Steps; Patriots Theater at the War Memorial, Trenton.

Tuesday, December 30

2 p.m.: Screening of *Wall-E*; Princeton Public Library. Free.

6 and 8 p.m.: The Practitioners of Music; Old Barracks Museum, 101 Barrack Street, Trenton. For reservations, call (609) 396-1776.

Wednesday, December 31

1 p.m.: The Fifes & Drums of the Old Barracks Concert (Military Music of the 18th Century); Masonic Temple, Front and Barrack Streets, Trenton. For reservations, call (609) 396-1776.

6 p.m.: *Salute to Vienna*; State Theatre, New Brunswick.

7:30 and 9:30 p.m.: Gary Delena and Chris Rich; Catch A Rising Star Comedy Club, Hyatt Regency. Also Saturday at 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 1

New Year's Day

Friday, January 2

7:30 p.m.: New Jersey Symphony Orchestra's "Best of Vienna" concert; Patriots Theater at the War Memorial, Trenton.



WINNING WATERWORKS: YWCA Aquatics Program Director Barbara Griggs (left) recently accepted a Pacesetter Award from the Central New Jersey Chapter of the American Red Cross. With her is the chapter's Director of Health and Safety Services, Kathleen Pearson. The YWCA utilizes the American Red Cross Instruction program, offering the most up-to-date teaching and learning systems. Pacesetter Awards honor volunteers and supporters for contributions that enable the chapter to deliver high-quality programs and services to communities in Mercer, Middlesex, Hunterdon, and parts of Somerset counties.



THANKS! Crisis Ministry volunteers, staff, and clients posed for a group shot to acknowledge all those who have provided support throughout the year, enabling the organization, the largest of its kind in Mercer County, to serve "neighbors in need" through every season, making wholesome food available for people of all ages for three weeks out of every month. The organization, which was founded in 1980 by Princeton's Trinity Episcopal Church and Nassau Presbyterian Church, also provides financial assistance to individuals and families in the form of emergency back rent and security deposits, mortgage assistance, utility back payments, and prescription medication costs. To learn about volunteer opportunities visit www.thecrisisministry.org or call (609) 396-9355.

SENIOR CITIZENS CALENDAR

Wednesday, December 17 – Wednesday, December 24

Information Provided by Senior Resource Center, 924-7108
SENIOR RESOURCE CENTER (SRC) at Spruce Circle (SC) off Harrison St., Suzanne Patterson Bldg (SPB); Redding Circle (RC); Borough Hall (BH); Harriet Bryan Building (HBH); Henry F. Pannell Learning Center (HPLC); Princeton University (PU); Princeton University Art Museum (PUAM).
Information about resources for the older adult. Call 924-7108.

Wednesday, December 17:

9:15 a.m. Aerobics; SPB.
10:30 a.m. Let's Talk; RC.
11:00 a.m. Ping-Pong; SPB.
1:00 p.m. Blood Pressure; SC.
1:30 p.m. Let's Talk English; SC.
1:30 p.m. Art with Bob; SPB.
3:00 p.m. Let's Talk Too; SC.
4:45 p.m. Memoir Writing; SC.

Thursday, December 18:

9:30 a.m. Bridge Coaching; SPB.
10:30 a.m. Yoga; SPB.
1:00 p.m. Art with Hannah; SPB.
1:00 p.m. Bridge - sanctioned; SPB.

Friday, December 19:

9:15 a.m. Aerobics; SPB.
9:30 a.m. Let's Talk English Too; RC.
11:00 a.m. Chair Exercise; SC.
11:00 a.m. Ping-Pong; SPB.
12:00 p.m. Brown Bag: "Prescription Questions"; SPB.
1:00 p.m. Knit Wits; SC.
2:00 p.m. Tai Chi; SPB.

Monday, December 22:

9:15 a.m. Aerobics; SPB.
11:30 a.m. Chair Exercise; SC.
12:00 p.m. Ping-Pong; SPB.
1:30 p.m. Wonder of Wordplay; SPB.

Tuesday, December 23:

10:00 a.m. Computer Basics; SPB.
11:00 a.m. Strength Training; SPB.
1:00 p.m. Bridge; SPB.
1:00 p.m. Computer Lab; SPB.

Wednesday, December 24:

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Revaluation

continued from page one

the homeowner an opportunity to make an appointment for a return visit. These are typically in the evening, between 5 and 7 p.m. The goal, according to Mr. Del Guercio, is to see 100 percent of the area properties, although he admitted that this was unlikely. When inside inspections cannot be made, he said, then "reasonable assumptions" based on external conditions are made about things like the number of bathrooms a house is likely to have.

Interior inspections typically take 5 to 15 minutes, depending on the size of a

house. Inspectors will note room counts, heating type, presence of air conditioning, numbers and types of fireplaces, whether or not there is a finished basement or attic, and if kitchens and bathrooms have been updated. Speakers on Monday evening noted that the focus will be on "the greatest contributors to value; what would prospective buyers look at?" They pointed out that the values assigned will not be done by inspectors, but by appraisers who will do it based on the information reported by the inspectors.

That information will also contain the results of an exterior inspection, which

includes taking actual measurements of each property, and considering "economic and site influences" such as views (the presence of water towers and utility poles, for example, detract from a property's value), the proximity of commercial properties, and the amount of nearby traffic. Homeowners may point out these variables to inspectors during their visits, especially if the visits occur at a time when inspectors are not likely to be aware, for example, of noisy school children on their way home. Other external considerations include improvements like in-ground pools, decks and porches,

and the quality of a home's construction, its condition, windows, exterior wall type, and roof type.

In addition to internal and external house inspections, sales information as of October 1, 2009 and neighborhood trends will be used to revalue area homes. "Location, location, location," intoned Mr. DelGuercio, describing how inspectors will drive through the Borough and Township "delin-eating neighborhoods." He described how a van will carry "seven or eight" people listening to an assessors "stream of consciousness" as he observes the streets they drive through.

Residents will be notified of their homes' assessments late in 2009 or early 2010. Although they may meet with Appraisal System representatives to discuss their findings, Mr. DelGuercio observed that "We feel confident in defending them, because the information that the county board is interested in is the sales information that we've collected." Appeals may be made at the county and state level, depending on the value of a house.

Area homeowners attending the meeting had plenty of questions for Mr. DelGuercio and Mr. Snyder. Hodge Road resident Kathleen M. Bagley wondered whether the analysis would take into account houses that are currently for sale, and may have been on the market for some time. She noted the extremes in house prices in just the last year, when some of the highest prices ever were being asked at the beginning of the year, with markedly lower expectations in recent months. She was told that listings are monitored over time.

Another Hodge Road resident, Scott Sipprelle, asked about Appraisal System's use of the word "subjective" in its description of how neighborhoods are delineated. "Doesn't this run the risk of violating the statute saying the assessment must be uniform?" He was told that the process "is simply a way of establishing an area of like properties." Mr. Sipprelle pointed out that municipal input into revaluation "should be a matter of public disclosure," and it was noted that citizens' committees would be created to review neighborhood assessments.

Edgehill Road resident Bob McLennan was told that assessments of non-university and non-seminary homes would have to suffice in delineating neighborhoods where there are houses owned by university or seminary and no tax records exist. Mr. McLennan got a big laugh when he wondered about vacant or neglected university- or seminary-owned properties, asking "Does that count like a power line?"

—Ellen Gilbert

Rescue

The Princeton First Aid and Rescue Squad responded to 73 calls for service last week.

On Saturday, December 6, the Squad responded for a student-aged male who reported that an individual threw a wine glass at his head from close range, causing it to shatter across his face. The patient sustained a deep laceration to his left cheek and multiple superficial scrapes. Pressure was applied to the wound to control the bleeding and the patient was transported to University Medical Center at Princeton (UMCP) for treatment.

Later that evening, a passerby called 911 upon discovering a teenage male unconscious on a picnic table adjacent to a local school. The Squad arrived to find the patient's clothing to be soaked through due to snow, suggesting that he had been there for more than an hour. The patient was not responsive to verbal or painful stimuli and his breathing was shallow; there was no evidence to indicate why he became unconscious. The crew secured his airway and rushed him to UMCP for additional evaluation and treatment.

On Sunday, December 7, the Squad answered the call of a home health aide whose patient began actively seizing during a routine check of her blood pressure. The seizure last-

ed for nearly a minute and the patient was disoriented and physically combative for several minutes thereafter. Upon the crew's arrival, the patient was slipping in and out of consciousness, and was placed on oxygen and transported to Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Hamilton for evaluation.

On Monday, December 8, police requested the Squad to evaluate a male who was seen wandering aimlessly around a local shopping center. Upon arrival, the crew determined that the patient was a diabetic. Despite his being disoriented, uncooperative and physically combative, the crew was able to administer glucose and transport him to UMCP.

On Wednesday, December 10, the Squad was dispatched to a two-car motor vehicle collision with airbag deployment. One patient, an elderly female, complained of pain in her ankle and across her chest that was likely caused by her seat belt. The second patient, an elderly male, complained of a rapid heartbeat and pain in his neck, shoulder, and leg. Both were secured to spinal immobilization devices and transported to UMCP.

The Princeton First Aid and Rescue Squad was named "2008 Outstanding Public EMS Agency" by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. For more information on donation or volunteer opportunities, please call (609) 924-3338 or visit www.pfars.org.



AWESOME: Mercer Engine Company #3 Deputy Chief Truestar Urian recently visited 3- and 4-year old children at the YWCA Princeton's Child Care Center at Valley Road School. The Princeton resident cautioned the children to be especially careful over the upcoming holiday season. He demonstrated fire-fighting equipment, talked about how he and his colleagues dress, and helped each child up onto the fire truck.

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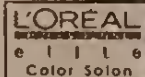
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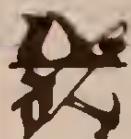
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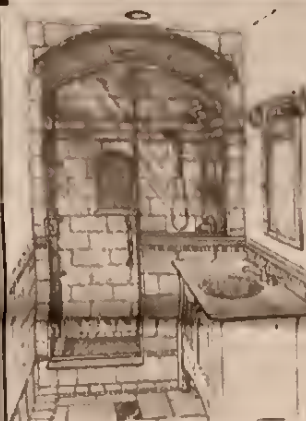


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BOOK REVIEW

Fiction That Flies: Remembering William Wharton and "Birdy"

In the Fall of 1976 a literary agent based in Pennington received a novel in manuscript by way of a close friend and college classmate who had moved to Paris from Hopewell. The author was an expatriate American painter living in a houseboat on the Seine. Though he had a modest reputation as an artist, he was in his early fifties, unpublished, and, as a writer, unknown. The agent was so excited by what she read that rather than mail the manuscript, she took it in to New York personally, by car, and delivered it to an editor at Knopf, who read it and was equally excited. The first and only publisher to see the book, Knopf scheduled it for publication in Fall 1978, then held it back until January 1979 in order to avoid a major newspaper strike. With the press functioning again, the reception accorded the author's first novel, *Birdy*, made him an instant literary sensation. The impact of his arrival on the scene could still be felt some 30 years later in the attention the press gave to his death. William Wharton, whose real name was Albert William du Aime, died on October 29, a little over a week short of his 83rd birthday.

Besides receiving extraordinary critical acclaim, *Birdy* became a best-seller, won a National Book Award, and was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. Meanwhile the agent, who became the author's lifelong friend, was selling it to the movies and auctioning it to a paperback house for \$525,000.

Compelling Belief

Birdy has to be read to be believed. Or, as *Newsweek*'s Peter Prescott put it while comparing the author to an alchemist, Wharton "compels belief." So he does, but after you read this book, try telling someone in reasonably specific terms what makes it special and they will give you funny looks, as if you were putting them on. It's not the notion of a character who wants to be a bird and tries to fly that's hard to talk about with a straight face; the concept of a human metaphorically singing or soaring is nothing new to literature and mythology. Nor would it be all that much of a stretch to credibly communicate the possibility that a soldier obsessed with birds could be so traumatized by combat that his madness would take the extreme form that it does in *Birdy*. But how do you in simple conversation put across the idea that the heart and literary soul of an acclaimed novel depends on the reader believing that a boy not only falls in love with a canary but dreams himself into believing he's become one, right down to mating with a female, nesting, and feeding nestlings? That would be a tricky feat even if the love object were a nightingale or a hawk, an eagle or a blackbird. But a canary? It might be different if you grew up with one in the house, or if your knowledge

of the species didn't begin and end with Tweetiebird. As Prescott's review puts it (if you read "canaries" for "birds"), "Only the most rigorous imagination can make a story of this sort work for a reader who is generally indifferent to birds. Wharton has just such an imagination."

Bringing off a book as unique as *Birdy* called for something more than a rigorous imagination; it required a comparable obsession in the life experience of the author. Like his title character, Wharton/du Aime grew up in Philadelphia and by the time he was 17 was overseeing a personal aviary of some 250 canaries that enabled him to make more money than his father could as a Depression-era carpenter. While Wharton, again like *Birdy*, saw combat in World War II, he came back with his faculties intact after being seriously wounded during the Battle of the Bulge. He studied art at UCLA, got a doctorate in psychology, and taught in the Los Angeles public school system for 11 years before moving to Europe with his family, eventually settling in Paris, where his wife taught and he painted and wrote. It wasn't until the Hopewell-Pennington

connection brought his novel to Knopf that he assumed a new name (combining his middle with his mother's maiden name) and began a new life as a writer. His decision to use a pen name was his way of both masking his actual identity and keeping his two creative missions distinct. "In France, I'm just a crazy painter who lives on a boat," he told one interviewer. "I didn't want to become an American celebrity, even a small literary one." In another interview he explained that "not thinking of myself as a writer gives me the freedom to be one." The mask may also have permitted him to give his imagination even more play,

in effect freeing him from the weight of his identity, like a lesser version of *Birdy*'s attempt to fly free of the weight of his human limitations.

Looking for Salinger

One odd side-effect of the pseudonym was that it helped inspire the absurd rumor that J.D. Salinger was sneaking into print by way of William Wharton (Salinger has been "outed" even more absurdly as Thomas Pynchon). There are, in fact, some parallels between the two writers worth mentioning. Salinger also fought in the Battle of the Bulge, undergoing a less idiosyncratic breakdown than *Birdy*'s, one that he made brilliant use of in "For Esmé

— with Love and Squalor," where the simple letter-by-letter spelling out of f-a-c-u-l-t-i-e-s that are not (and finally are) "intact" creates the story's denouement. A more likely hint for readers looking for a touch of Holden Caulfield in *Birdy* can be found in the voice or narrative style of *Birdy*'s best friend, Al, who provides the grounding essential to the book's dynamic. While the chapters describing *Birdy*'s thoughts and "flights" are in italics, Al's earthier, more profanely real-

istic point of view is laid out in good old no frills roman type. There's an adolescent flavor to Al's swearing that is occasionally, superficially evocative of Holden's, but the clearest echo of *The Catcher in the Rye*'s ultimate message ("Don't ever tell anybody anything. If you do, you start missing everybody") comes when Al says, "Before you know it, if you're not careful, you can get to feeling sorry for everybody and there's nobody left to hate."

If Al represents the voice of the street, or simply a more manly normality, the most striking of *Birdy*'s flights show Wharton attempting to articulate another world, to

translate his art from the human to non human, to give voice to the very air, not merely in order to transcribe the song of a bird, but to virtually inhabit the bird and thus to become the song. Needless to say, this is a wildly ambitious undertaking, to move beyond the tropes and themes of poets writing odes to skylarks or nightingales or falcons. It was Wharton's all-out attempt to live metaphor and enact analogy — to cross a line with seemingly nothing but madness or nonsense on the other side — that moved reviewers of the novel to employ terms like "a marvel," "an amazement," "a remarkable feat of the imagination," "incandescent beauty," "fascination," or to impersonate the spirit of the novel with lines like "It soars" or "To read *Birdy* is to fly."

Becoming the Song

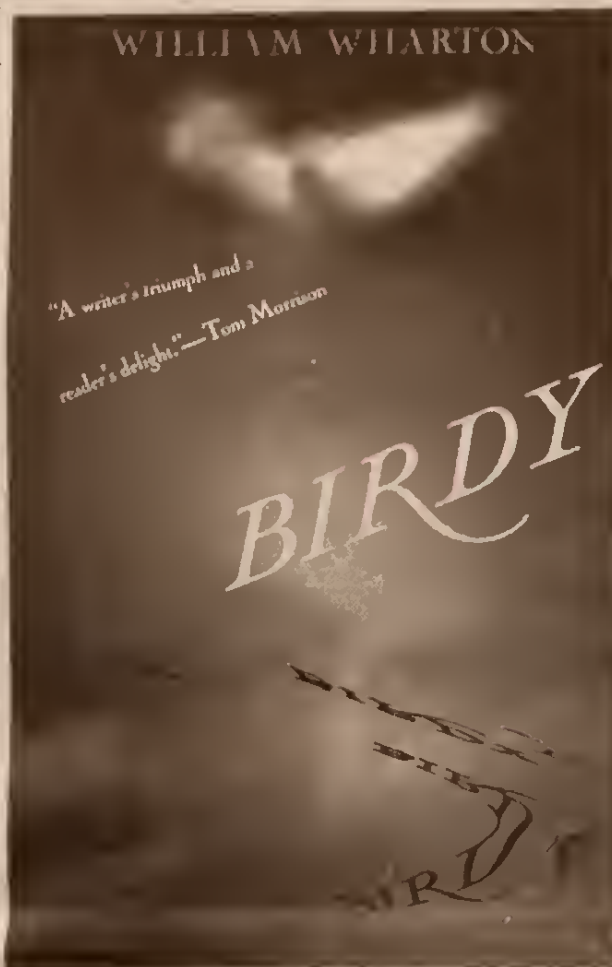
An instance where Wharton shows us what he's up to comes with his description of *Birdy* imagining a male canary's mating song:

"There's open air in his song, the power of wings and the softness of feathers It's clear as any love song. He sings of things he could never have seen or known in the ovitory These things must be memories in his blood carried through in his song. There's the song of rivers and the sound of water and the song of fields and seeds in their natural places. It's a song I'll never forget. It's with this song I began to understand something of conory. Conory isn't a language like ours with individual words, or words put into sentences. In the singing, you let your mind go, not think, and it comes to you, clearer than words. It comes as if you'd thought it yourself. Conory is much more feeling, more abstract than any language. Listening...that night I found out things I knew must be but I'd never known. It was the song of someone who knows how to fly."

Although the passage suggests that Wharton is resorting to the same limited language a poet, however gifted, might use, what makes *Birdy*'s achievement believable is the way Wharton carefully, almost methodically, prepares the reader for it. The transformation doesn't happen all at once. It's what Peter Prescott is getting at when he observes that Wharton is aware that "to draw us into *Birdy*'s world of illusion he must begin with precise descriptions of how birds behave and then must modulate to the more rarefied stuff."

That "stuff" is no less rarefied today than it was 30 years ago. What's surprising is how hard it is to find a copy of *Birdy*, even though it's still in print in a Vintage paperback. As of this writing, the Princeton Public Library has nothing by William Wharton on its shelves.

—Stuart Mitchner



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FOSTER BAHA'I SCHOOL



Charles Evered

Evered Leading Workshop At Arts Council Thursday

The Arts Council of Princeton will offer a writer's workshop with Robeson Center Artist in Residence Charles Evered on Thursday, December 18, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Marking the culmination of Mr. Evered's six-month residency at the Robeson Center for the Arts, the workshop is for aspiring screenwriter/playwrights and directors interested in furthering their ambitions as well as gaining practical insight into getting started. Mr. Evered will share his experience on how to make a living as a writer and how to navigate the changes in the entertainment industry. Participants will learn how best to submit work to producers, get an agent, work with name actors, and whether to enroll in a writing program or film school.

The Arts Council has presented a number of programs featuring Charles Evered's work. In 2006, he organized a reading at the **contemporary Arts Center** of his play, *Adopt a Sailor*, which became his first feature film in 2008 and was screened at the Robeson Center in November with its star, Bebe Neuwirth, in attendance. He also presented, for the first time, a reading of his play, *Class*, at the Robeson Center in September starring Tony-award-winning actors Neuwirth and Roger Rees.

Admission for the event is \$15 / \$12 Members. Pre-registration forms can be filled out on the Arts Council of Princeton's website www.artscouncilofprinceton.org. The workshop will take place at the Robeson Center, 102 Witherspoon Street, Princeton. Visit the website for more information or call (609) 924-8777.

Princeton Neuroscientist Writes Novel, Thriller

Michael S. A. Graziano, professor of psychology at Princeton University, has recently published a novel, *The Love Song of Monkey* (Leapfrog Press \$13.95) inspired by lines from T. S. Elliot's "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock," and co-authored with his sister, L.M. Graziano, a science fiction adventure titled *Cretaceous Down: 65 Million Years in the Past, the Journey Begins* (Leapfrog \$15.95).

Describing the genesis of the novel, Mr. Graziano mentioned the lines from "Prufrock" ("I should have been a pair of ragged claws/scuttling across the floors of silent seas") and the effect they had of making him think "what would it feel like to actually be those claws on the bottom of the ocean? What psychological state of love

and desperation would lead one down there?" When he finally decided to write what he felt about those two lines, the result was *The Love Song of Monkey*, which Publishers Weekly called a "compelling fantasy" that blends "twin ideas of forgiveness and mercy" in a "strange, moving, patiently wrought novel, making for a trippy but charming read."

Cretaceous Down, the book Mr. Graziano wrote with his sister, oceanographer Lisa M. Graziano, is a dinosaur thriller that takes the reader back in time to the North American Late Cretaceous Period, using the latest discoveries in Montana's Hell Creek Formation as its basis.

The book uses time travel through a graviton vault in a particle physics lab to send its characters — four people and a German shepherd — from modern-day Creekbend, S.D., to the same location 65 million years in the past. Beginning on the white sands of a too-idyllic beach, the characters, and the reader, embark on a thousand-mile trek from the Epicontinental Sea to the foothills of the Infant Rocky Mountains. During two months of travel by river and over land, the survivors encounter a host of Cretaceous vegetation, dinosaurs, mammals, reptiles, and terrain.

Natural History magazine called *Cretaceous Down* "a

first-class adventure story, an effortless read as engaging as vintage Jules Verne" while Publishers Weekly praised the way the "sibling scientists combine speculation and science in a compulsively page-turning time-travel adventure Details about plants, animals and insects in the distant past set the stage for a tight, scientifically plausible plot with a wholly unexpected twist that will keep readers guessing."

Mr. Graziano's work on the brain has been featured in the New York Times, Science Magazine, and Glamour Magazine. He is the author of *The Intelligent Movement Machine* (Oxford University Press 2008) and the novella *Hiding Places* (New England Review 1998). Formerly a professor of Oceanography at Sea Education Association, Cape Cod resident Lisa Graziano is a freelance editor and writer who divides her time between editing, research at sea, and writing.



Celebration of Catullus Planned at Labyrinth

Labyrinth Books is presenting a reading of the poetry of the lyric poet Gaius Valerius Catullus on Sunday, December 21, at 4p.m. In honor of this year's Saturnalia. The poems, read in Latin, will be translated into English by Clodia Metelli.

The poems for this reading will focus on the poet's awkward and tenuous courtship of "Lesbia," the "heady flirtation, the wild descent into love, the physical rapture, the gnawing jealousy, the betrayal and the torment of the spurned lover." Both poignant and violent, the poems can include obscenities. Gilbert Highet wrote about Catullus in *Poets in A Landscape*: "It is more dif-

ficult again to explain, even to oneself, why one of the very few passionately sincere love-poets in Western literature should have degraded his own work and offended his own admirers by crude jokes and deliberate filth. Other poets have been daring. Few have said what they felt with such trenchant clarity. Few have suffered such bold, arrogant emotions. Few have written so little — sixty or seventy pages — and still covered such a vast range of feeling. Few have been so outrageously direct and so maddeningly inconsistent."

Following the reading, classicist John Timpane, the author of *Poetry for Dummies*, will give a brief talk about Catullus and his place as a lyric poet. Although it is the custom during Saturnalia, togas will not be worn. Guests are encouraged to bring a bottle of Lacryma Christi for the Saturnalia reading.

Translation of Gulag Memoir Subject of Library Talk

Princeton University Sociology Professor Deborah Kaple will discuss her recent translation from the Russian of a memoir about the gulag Soviet prison camp system on Thursday, December 18, at 7 p.m., at the Princeton Public Library. Sponsored by the Princeton University Sociology Department and the Program in Russian and Eurasian Studies, the event is free and open to the public, and light refreshments will be provided.

Ms. Kaple is the author of *Dream of a Red Factory*, an investigation into the origins of China's communist system. In her talk on Thursday, she will discuss the gulag system, read a chapter from the book, and describe how she acquired this first-hand account from someone who was part of the Soviet system.

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Art**Félix Candela Exhibition Emphasizes
Beauty and Ingenuity of Structures**

Hailing Félix Candela as one of the "new magicians of concrete," a 1958 Time Magazine article described the Spanish-born engineer's "soaring shell structures" as "the pride of Mexico City, useful for everything from churches to bandstands." Fifty years later, the work of the one-time Spanish ski champion who fought with the Loyalists still seems magical in the Princeton Art Museum exhibition, "Félix Candela: Engineer, Builder,

Structural Artist."

Recognized as one of the great structural artists of the twentieth century, Candela (1910-1997), who emigrated to Mexico in 1939, designed and built innovative thin shell concrete roof structures using the hyperbolic paraboloid geometric form. The exhibition examines Candela's process of design and construction through several of his most significant works, and is particularly noteworthy because it represents a

Félix Candela
Engineer, Builder, Structural Artist

NEW BOOK ON MASTER BUILDER: Published in conjunction with the Princeton Art Museum's current exhibition on Félix Candela, this Yale University Press volume by Princeton University civil engineering professors David P. Billington and Maria E. Moreyra Garlock places Candela's work at "the intersection of art and engineering."

collaboration between the museum and Princeton University's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Under the direction of David P. Billington, who is Gordon Y.S. Wu Professor of Engineering and director of the University's Program in Architecture and Engineering, and Assistant Professor Maria E. Moreyra Garlock, students visited buildings designed by Candela and recreated them as models for the exhibit. The pedagogical aspect of the project continues with the curricula of classes like "Structures in the Urban Environment" and "Introduction to Architectural Thinking" incorporating aspects of the project. In a recent gallery talk at the museum, Mr. Billington and Ms. Garlock reported that undergraduate and graduate student products resulting from the three-year effort include senior theses, dissertations, conference papers, journal articles, book chapters, and a website.

Looking at the soaring, curved roofs of models of Candela creations like the Lomas de Cuernavaca Chapel, the Milagrosa Church, Los Mantantiales Restaurant, and the Bacardi Rum Factory, it is difficult to remember that the wood used in both the originals and the models does not bend. Nicknamed "The Shell Builder,"

Candela experimented with conoids, folded slabs, and elliptical domes. In her gallery talk, Ms. Garlock noted that computers, which were not available to Candela during the 1950s when he did most of his umbrella-like designs, have since validated his work. The design that first brought him to attention was a 1950 concrete shell for Mexico's University City Cosmic Ray Pavilion, designed with Architect Jorge González Reyna. So precise was the building's engineering, that its minimum thickness was five-eighths of an inch.

Candela's design credos strongly resonate with today's interest in sustainable structures. As the Art Museum exhibit observes, his work reflected "the true ethos of engineering — to conserve natural resources by minimizing materials; to reduce cost by intimately connecting design and construction, and to create beautiful forms."

The Candela exhibition continues through Sunday, February 22. The Princeton Art Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. Admission is free. For more information see artmuseum.princeton.edu.

— Ellen Gilbert

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Winter at Grounds for Sculpture Featuring Visions and Additions

Winter season exhibitions of contemporary sculpture on view through April 26 at Grounds For Sculpture include "Inspired Visions," which features the work of Allan Houser; "Visions of the Mind," displaying sculptures by Michael Naranjo; and the International Sculpture Center's 2008 Outstanding Student Achievement in Contemporary Sculpture Awards. New additions outdoors in the sculpture park include works by Carol Feuerman, Mike Gyampo, Gloria Vanderbilt, and Autin Dean Wright.

While enjoying a special interest in art from other nations and of other times, Allan Houser has always been proud of his Native American heritage. As a student of Dorothy Dunn at the Painting Studio of the Santa Fe Indian School, the Warm Springs Chiricahua Apache Indian learned of flat planes, forms of color and Indian subject matter, including the simplest of sculptural non-representational images. Whether stone or bronze, his work communicates a "nuanced volumetric presence." This retrospective of his long career expresses his

personal vision through the "universal language of sculpture." From the early representations influenced by his attendance at the Dunn school to his later modernist works, Mr. Houser developed a personal sensibility that speaks to the world at large. In his words: "I keep looking forward to tomorrow, to projects that are waiting for me in the studio. Sometimes, when I am in the middle of something especially challenging, I stay awake all night, as if drunk with the excitement of it, anticipating the work the next day, and thinking about the special problems that are waiting to be solved."

Michael Naranjo's sculptures in "Visions of the Mind" show an added dimension of touch. Blinded by a grenade in Vietnam, he has to depend solely on his fingers and hands when working on his narrative pieces; sculpting tools are useless for him. Having made special arrangements to "see" - by touch - masterpieces in the Louvre in Paris and the National Gallery in Washington, D.C., he has been inspired over the last 38 years to create expres-

sive, simplified shapes that unite to form a subject that tells a story. Speaking of his bronze, "He's My Brother," he said, "This scene must have taken place on too many occasions all around the world, and although the uniform one wears may be different, the sentiments remain the same. In combat, close relationships are built, as one walks the fine line between life and death, and one would readily lay down his life for his brother. I dressed these figures to represent what I was familiar with, as I walked through the rice fields of Vietnam."

The 2008 Outstanding Student Achievement in Contemporary Sculpture Awards represent the eighth consecutive year of Grounds for Sculpture's ongoing partnership with the International Sculpture Center, which presents this award competition each year to its member colleges and universities in order to support, encourage, and recognize the work of young sculptors. This year 12 Awards and 9 Honorable Mentions were selected from 401 nominees. The jury included Mary Cerutti, director of the Sculpture Center, sculptor Dennis Oppenheim, and Chair of Sculpture at the Academy of Fine Art Robert Roesch.

Among New Additions Outdoors, Carol Feuerman's bronze sculpture, *Employee Shower*, is realistic in its portrayal of the human figure, although her subjects are often just fragments of the body whose completion is created in the mind of the viewer.

Matters of the Moment, Mike Gyampo's sculpture in bronze, displays his interest in traditional philosophical and aesthetic matters and gives expression to the combination of African and American influences in his work. Regardless of the medium, Mr. Gyampo's sculptures convey a solidity and permanence that grounds them to the earth.

This season, Grounds For Sculpture introduces its newest artist, Gloria Vanderbilt, whose sculpture, *Heart's Desire*, is part of a series of Plexiglas constructions begun in 1996 in which large plastic cubes enclose found objects such as dolls' heads, wishbones and other common items. In Autin Dean Wright's sculptures the simplicity of forms is based on complex concepts and even more complex and elaborate execution. This ambiguity between vision and construction results in an optical presence heightened by the LED light within the fiberglass sculpture.

Grounds For Sculpture is a 35-acre public sculpture park located in Hamilton that was founded in 1992 on the site of the former N.J. State Fairgrounds by J. Seward Johnson. For more information, visit www.groundsforsculpture.org.



AT WORK: Allan Houser in his design studio in 1991 working on the clay original for the bronze, "Warm Spring Apache." His work, "Inspired Visions," will be at Grounds For Sculpture's winter season exhibitions of contemporary sculpture through April 26.

(Photo by Lee Alarmon)

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"HE'S MY BROTHER": This 2002 bronze by Michael Naranjo is from his "Visions of the Mind," which is on view at Grounds For Sculpture in Hamilton through April 26. For more information, visit www.groundsforsculpture.org.

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"WINTER'S WISH": This 36 x 24" acrylic on canvas by Marilyn Honig is among the winter snow scenes and new custom posters on view at the Honig Gallery, 47 West Broad Street, Hopewell, through January 31. Hours: Thursday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., or by appointment. Phone: (646) 345-5538.



"SUNDAY BRUNCH": This oil painting by artist and environmental activist Christine Graefe Drewyer is part of an exhibit that will run through December 31 at the Bucks County Gallery of Fine Art, 77 W. Bridge Street in New Hope, Pa. Ms. Drewyer was selected by the editors of American Art Collector Magazine as a featured artist in October 2007 and named Woman of the Year in her field by National Association of Professional and Executive Women in 2008. Call (215) 862-5272 for further information, or visit buckscountygalleries.com.



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"Egypt Unveiled" Exhibit Opening at Firestone

Princeton University Library celebrates the 200th anniversary of the publication of "Description de l'Égypte" with the exhibition "Egypt Unveiled: The Mission of Napoleon's Savants," which will be on view from Sunday, December 21 through Sunday, May 10, 2009, in the main gallery of Firestone Library on the Princeton University campus.

Despite the failure of Napoleon Bonaparte's 1798 military campaign in Egypt, the work of the scholars who accompanied him on the expedition was a success. A group of 151 scientists, engineers, and artists was recruited to explore, describe, and document every aspect of the country. From the great temples and tombs of ancient Egypt to contemporary customs and trades, from Egyptian animals, plants, and minerals to local topography, the savants — or scholars — captured it all. The comprehensive result of their work and research was the publication of "Description de l'Égypte" between 1809 and 1822. Comprising 23 volumes and 837 engraved plates, it is considered an extraordinary scholarly achievement as well as a foundational work of modern Egyptology.

"Egypt Unveiled" shares the highlights of the "Description" and the stories and accomplishments of Napoleon's scholars.

Hours for the exhibition are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, and noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For holiday hours, call (609) 258-3184 or visit: www.princeton.edu/~rbsc/exhibitions/main. On January 18, March 1 and April 26 at 3 pm, there will be guided tours conducted by the curators.

"This year the New Jersey State Museum invited the artisans to consider transformation — of ideas, materials or space, and how the products of these transformations themselves trigger additional change — of craft forms, perception or society itself," said Eric Pryor, the Museum's executive director. "Included in the exhibition are works in the traditional crafts materials of textile, ceramic, metal and wood, as well as some materials and methods that expand the concept of craft."

The Arts Annual series is sponsored by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts; the Jersey City Museum; the Montclair Art Museum; the Morris Museum; The Newark Museum; The Noyes Museum of Art; and

the New Jersey State Museum. "Transformations" has received additional funding from the Friends of the New Jersey State Museum.

The New Jersey State Museum is located at 205 West State Street, Trenton. The main building and auditorium are open Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. The Museum is closed Mondays and all state holidays. Exhibitions are also presented in the Museum's satellite gallery next door in the Department of State building at 225 West State Street. On weekends, free parking is available in lots adjacent to and behind the Museum. For more museum information, call the Museum's recorded information line at (609) 292-6464 or visit its website at www.newjerseystatemuseum.org.



"SPIRITUAL SPLENDOR": This photograph by photographer Ronald S. Schoffland was taken during his recent visit to Southeast Asia and can be seen from December 20 through January 17 in "Spiritual Splendor of Indochina," at the Schotland Gallery, 123 Main Street, in Flemington. The opening reception will take place on Saturday, December 20th from 2 to 4 p.m. On December 21 through 24, there will be gallery hours 1-6 pm each day, and thereafter by appointment. For additional information, call (908) 334-0549.

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More than 125 craftspeople from around the state submitted work for the jury process. The exhibition features 58 pieces by 27 artisans.

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Area Exhibits

The Arts Council of Princeton is holding its annual two-week holiday show and sale of works of art and fine crafts by local artists, "Sauce for the Goose," through December 20, in the Taplin Gallery at the new Paul Robeson Center for the Arts. On Thursday, December 18, from 7:30 - 9 p.m., there will be a screen/play writer's workshop with Robeson Center Artist in Residence Charles Evered.

ARTWORKS on Stockton Street in Trenton is hosting its final exhibit of the year, "Old's Cool: An Assemblage of Assemblage Artists," curated by Glenn Moore, through December 27.

The Bernstein Gallery at the Woodrow Wilson School will be presenting "Imagined Landscapes," photographs by Ernestine Ruben, through February 13. There will be a reception open to the public on December 19 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Brodsky Center Gallery, The Heldrich, 10 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick, is presenting "Sacred Spaces," an exhibit

tion of 80 photographs by Mary Cross, which will run through January 4. The subjects are wall paintings and mosaics found in ancient churches, monasteries, and mosques located in Greece, Cyprus, and Turkey.

Bucks County Gallery of Fine Art (formerly Howard Gallery) at 77 West Bridge St. in new Hope, Pa., is presenting an exhibit featuring oil paintings by Annapolis Maryland Artist Christine Graefe Drewyer through December 31.

The Coryell Gallery at 8 Coryell Street in Lambertville is presenting a special holiday exhibition of the work of Joanne S. Scott and George Van Hook through January 11.

The D&R Greenway Land Trust at One Preservation Place in Princeton is presenting "A Brush With Nature," an exhibition featuring works by 50 members of The Garden State Watercolor Society, which will run through January 9 in D&R Greenway's Marie L. Matthews Gallery. The show is free and open to the public during business days, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Firestone Library on the Princeton University campus is presenting "Sketching Their Characters: 150 Years of Political Cartoons From Andrew Jackson to George H.W. Bush," which will be in the library's Milberg Gallery until Sunday, January 4. A new exhibition, "Egypt Unveiled: The Mission of Napoleon's Savants," will be on view in the main gallery from Sunday, December 21, through Sunday, May 10.

The Gallery at Chapin will be presenting "Images: Lost and Found," a joint exhibit featuring Ann Calandro and Valerie Young from January 3 through 30, with a reception on Wednesday, January 7, from 5 to 7 p.m. For further information, call (609) 924-7206.

The Gallery at Mercer County Community College is presenting "A Light Without... A Light Within," featuring work by

Robert Beck, Joseph Gyursak, and Kyle Stevenson, through December 18.

Gallery 14 in Hopewell is presenting "Paranormal Perfumerie" featuring the work of Martha Weintraub through December 21; in the Small Gallery, the photography of Karen Johannesen.

Grounds for Sculpture is presenting "A Twist of Art" featuring William Smith, on view through December 31. Three exhibitions of contemporary sculpture are open to the public through April 26: "Inspired Visions," exhibiting the work of Allan Houser, "Visions of the Mind," displaying sculptures by Michael Naranjo, and the International Sculpture Center's 2008 Outstanding Student Achievement in Contemporary Sculpture Awards. New Additions Outdoors in the sculpture park include works by Carol Feuerman, Mike Gyampo, Gloria Vanderbilt and Austin Dean Wright. For more information, visit www.groundsforsculpture.org.

The Historical Society of Princeton, located in Bainbridge House at 158 Nassau Street in Princeton, is presenting "Stand Up, Speak Out: Princeton's Citizens Find Their Voice," through July 5. For more information, call (609) 921-6748 or visit www.princetonhistory.org.

The James A. Michener Art Museum at 138 South Pine Street in Doylestown is presenting "Saving Face: Portraits from the Collection of Robert Infarinato," through March 15. The exhibit features portraits of celebrities, including Marilyn Monroe, Matisse, and Picasso, by photographers such as Ansel Adams, Robert Capa, Henri Cartier-Bresson, and Man Ray. An exhibition of welded bronze sculptures by Philadelphia artist Barry Parker will be on display as part of the ongoing Outdoor Sculpture Program through March 1. "Shifting Ground: Contemporary Landscapes by Paula

Chamlee, Alan Goldstein and Paul Matthews," will be on view in the Wachovia Gallery through March 1.

The last show before the New Hope branch of the Michener permanently closes is "Claus Mroczynski: Sacred Places of the Southwest," which includes 49 black and white photographs of Native American ruins and Southwest landscapes. The exhibition is on view in the Della Penna Gallery through February 1.

The Jane Vorhees Zimmerli Art Museum in New Brunswick is presenting "Inspired by Literature: Art and Fine Books," through July 5; "Performing the Archive: Collective Actions in the 1970s-80s," through April 12; and "The Appointing Gesture: The Worlds and Images of Dmitry Prigov," through January 18. The Zimmerli is located at 71 Hamilton Street on the College Avenue campus of Rutgers University in New Brunswick.

Mariboe Gallery and The Community Arts Partnership at the Peddie School (CAPPS) in Hightstown will be presenting an exhibition of photographs by José Ruiz and Nick Guilbert, through January 3.

Mercer County Library, Lawrence Branch, 2751 Brunswick Pike, Lawrenceville, is presenting "Voices for the Marsh 2008-09," a juried photography exhibit, through January 5. The show celebrates the plants, wildlife, habitats, and vistas found at the Hamilton-Trenton-Bordentown Marsh.

Morven Museum & Garden is presenting "Picturing Princeton 1783: The Nation's Capital" through January 11. For more information, call Morven at (609) 924-8144, ext. 106. Free parking is available.

The New Jersey State Museum at 205 West State Street in Trenton will host the 2008 New Jersey Arts Annual Crafts juried exhibition, "Transformations," through March 15.

The Present Day Club at 72 Stockton Street in Princeton will be presenting "Coastal Moods," an exhibit of acrylic and watercolor paintings by Kate Leigh Cutler (formerly Katie Bogle) through December 31. The Club is open weekdays except Wednesday from 10 to 4 p.m.

The Princeton Jewish Center is showing a new collection of color photographs by Rabbi Joshua Eli Plaut.

The Princeton University Art Museum is presenting "Jasper Johns: Light Bulb," through January 4; "Frank Gehry: On Line," through January 4; and "Félix Candela: Engineer, Builder, Structural Artist," through February 22. "Body Memory," which features 20th- and 21st-century works of art that focus on the body as subject, medium, or expressive device, will run through January 4. For information about the museum's Art for Families program for children ages 5-9, call University Ticketing at (609) 258-9220.

Riverrun Gallery at The

Laceworks, 287 South Main Street, Lambertville, will be presenting "Recent Paintings by Sven Widen and Lizzi Schipper" through January 5.

The Schotland Gallery, 123 Main Street, in Flemington is presenting photographer Robert S. Schotland's "Spiritual Splendor of Indochina" from December 20 until January 17, with an opening reception on Saturday, December 20 from 2 to 4 p.m. On December 21 through 24, there will be gallery hours from 1 to 6 p.m. each day, and thereafter by appointment.

The Trenton City Museum at Ellarslie Mansion will be hosting an exhibit of works from New Jersey toymaker, J. Cheln and Company through March 22.

The University Medical Center at Princeton is presenting an exhibit featuring the watercolors of Karen Bannister and Alice Warshaw, which will run through January 14. This exhibit may be viewed daily in the University Medical Center Dining Room from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

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MUSIC REVIEW

Brentano Quartet, Artists-in-Residence, Rewards Community With Free Concert

For alert Princeton audiences, a free concert treat slipped through the University campus on Friday night. The members of the Brentano String Quartet are Artists-in-Residence at Princeton University's Department of Music and as such give back to the community in the form of a free concert from time to time. The Quartet's performance on Friday night in Richardson Auditorium featured both a legend in chamber music and a well-established vocal soloist, who had not been in Princeton before, performing some pretty hair-raising music.

Arnold Schoenberg's *Ode to Napoleon* was composed in 1942, commissioned by the League of Composers in the United States. Schoenberg set Lord Byron's disdainful 1814 *Ode to Napoleon* (which includes the text "Somehow Napoleon might rise, to shame the world again") to provide his own musical commentary on "the agitation aroused in mankind against the crimes that provide this war." Also impelled by the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the composer depicted the war atmosphere by setting the text in the serial atonal style he had developed earlier in the century.

The serialism of the music may have been hard to delineate in the playing of the Brentano Quartet and guest pianist Peter Serkin, but through the clarity of the performance, the audience could well sense the drama of the piece. Byron's text was "recited" by bass-baritone Dean Elzinga, who has included in his illustrious operatic and concert career a good amount of music written in the 20th and 21st centuries. Although the printed text and other programmatic materials did not arrive at the hall in time for the concert, Mr. Elzinga's precise diction conveyed much of the crucial wording without sounding contrived. The choice of a singer rather than an actor to serve as narrator reflected acknowledgement of Schoenberg's use of Sprechstimme — the half-spoken, half-sung vocal style which is one of Schoenberg's signature compositional tools. The continually jagged and sharp string playing by the members of the Brentano Quartet (violinists Mark Steinberg and Serena Canin, violist Misha Amory and cellist Nina Maria Lee) also captured the intensity of the music. Mr. Serkin's piano accompaniment was well-subdued when need be for rhythmic emphasis and the strings and piano were well matched to one another.

The musicians continued in the contemporary vein with a *Quintet for Piano and Strings* by Charles Wuorinen, composed specifically for the Quartet, and in a style

almost as jagged as the Schoenberg work with multiple series of tiny motives. The piano part seemed to be the core of the work, and Mr. Serkin maintained a very light touch on the keyboard. Violist Mr. Amory led the Quartet through the second section, while Mr. Serkin effectively led the third. The intensity of all the musicians was quite apparent, especially given that this was a long quintet and no doubt a difficult task to maintain concentration for that amount of time.

Mr. Serkin took the stage alone for Johann Sebastian Bach's *Copriccio on the Departure of His Most Beloved Brother*, a lesser known keyboard work from Bach's teenage years. Divided into six short movements, this piece told a story through changes in musical style and character. Mr. Serkin made subtle use of the pedal throughout the work, bringing out well the "arioso" effect of the first movement, with clean musical figures and ornaments that would later appear in Bach wind parts. Mr. Serkin sustained the third movement *Adagissimo* well in intensity, and played the final movement fugue as vintage Bach — clean, precise, and with close attention to the many series of suspensions.

The closing *Grosse Fuge* for String Quartet by Beethoven was a fitting companion to the other works on the program in its structural link to Baroque counterpoint and its daring innovation, allying the work with the 20th century avant-garde. The piece has traditionally been considered among the most difficult in the quartet repertory, but the Brentano gave the impression of being completely in control of the piece, managing well the extreme dissonances and angularity. Effective unisons among all the string instruments opened the piece, and the Quartet seemed to thoroughly enjoy the opportunity to dig into Beethoven virtuosity. Delicate shifts to softer sections showed the ensemble blend, and the Quartet moved easily and smoothly from unison playing to the most extreme of individual parts.

As part of its residency at Princeton University, the Brentano String Quartet conducts workshops and coaching sessions with both composers and performers in the Music Department. This residency enabled the Princeton community to hear this extraordinary program (the concert was repeated on Saturday night in New York's 92nd Street Y) and provides Princeton students with a clear benchmark of instrumental playing that they can incorporate into their own goals and aspirations.

—Nancy Plum

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Opera Performances Set At Monteverdi Conference

Princeton University will present a student production of Claudio Monteverdi's opera *The Return of Ulysses* at 8 p.m. on January 9 and 10 in Richardson Auditorium. The performances will be part of an interdisciplinary conference at the University, "Performing Homer: From Epic to Opera," that will involve an international roster of scholars.

The students of Music 214 will present the opera, with music direction by Michael Pratt, conductor of the Princeton University Orchestra and Director of the Program in Musical Performance. Stage direction will be by Andrew Eggert, who has spent the fall semester as a lecturer in the Department of Music. A freelance director with experience in baroque opera, he has worked with Chicago Opera Theater and Glimmerglass Opera. He will be assisted in the production by set designer Christopher Gorzelnik, lighting designer Liz Lammer, and costumer designer Marie Miller.

Admission will be \$10, with students free. To order, call University Ticketing at (609) 258-9220 or visit www.princeton.edu/utickets/tixbuy.html.

Those planning on attending the opera are invited to McCormick Hall on Friday, January 9 at 4:30 p.m. for a pre-concert symposium presented by Professor Wendy Heller and students of Music 515. No registration is necessary.

Based on well-known episodes from Homer's *Odyssey*, Monteverdi's opera, with libretto by Giacomo Badoaro, provides an account of Ulysses' return from the Trojan War to his home in Ithaca and his faithful wife Penelope after a 20-year absence. Mr. Eggert's production, set during World War I, provides a 20th-century context for the tale of desire, greed, and marital fidelity.

This performance of Monteverdi's opera is part of a continuing collaboration on Baroque opera involving musicologists and performers at Princeton University led by Mr. Pratt and Prof. Heller. Mr. Pratt first conducted Monteverdi's *The Corona-*

tion of Poppea in January 2001. Since then he and Prof. Heller have worked together on productions of two operas by Monteverdi's younger contemporary, Francesco Cavalli, *La Colisto* and *Egisto*.

The conference "Performing Homer: From Epic to Opera" will feature an international roster of scholars considering the performative qualities of Homer's epic from a variety of perspectives, including Classics, Drama, Comparative Literature, Musicology, and Art History. Prof. Heller, a professor of music specializing in 17th-century Venetian opera, is organizing the conference. Speakers include Ellen Rosand, author of *Monteverdi's Last Operas: A Venetian Trilogy* and Edith Hall, author of *The Return of Ulysses: A Cultural History*. The conference is free. To register, e-mail astearly@princeton.edu.



CHAPEL BOUNO: The Princeton High School Choir, joined by four other choruses and two orchestras from the school, will perform PHS's 63rd Annual Winter Concert tomorrow, December 18, at the Princeton University Chapel at 7:30 p.m. The concert is free. The program will include works by Hassler, Mendelssohn, and Bernstein, in addition to the traditional Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's "Messiah." The Choir will be directed by Vincent Metallo, now in his first year as Director of the Princeton High School Choral Department. Mr. Metallo previously held the positions of Chair of the Performing Arts at the Princeton Day School, Artistic Director of the American Boychoir, and Assistant Professor of Music at Westminster Choir College, DePauw University, Wellesley College, and Lehigh University.



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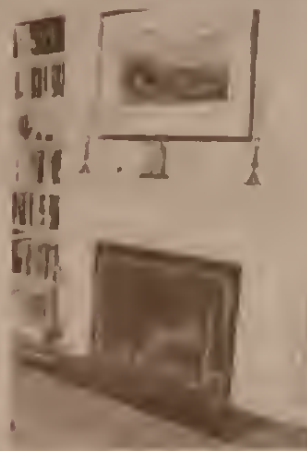
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"Best of Vienna" Concert Set by NJSO in Trenton

The New Jersey Symphony Orchestra will waltz into 2009 with a New Year's program modeled after the famous Viennese New Year's Day concerts. The NJSO's "Best of Vienna" concert, featuring waltzes, polkas, and other dance music, will be performed on Friday, January 2 at 7:30 p.m. at the Patriots Theater at the War Memorial in Trenton.

The concert will also be presented on Thursday, January 1 at 2 p.m. at the Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn; Saturday, January 3 at 8 p.m. at the Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank; and Sunday, January 4 at 3 p.m. at bergenPAC in Englewood.

Ticket prices range from \$17 to \$55 and are available online at www.njsymphony.org or by phone at (800) 255-3476.

At Vienna's famous New Year's Day concerts, the waltzes, marches, and gallops create moods that are lighthearted, festive, patriotic, and at times wistful. Inevitably, all roads lead to the Strauss family. The compositions of Johann the elder and his son Johann II carry both the Viennese programs and the NJSO's "Best of Vienna."

The New Year's Day con-

cert tradition began on New Year's Eve, 1939, with an all-Johann Strauss II program that included the Overture to *Die Fledermous* and *Perpetuum Mobile*, which the NJSO will again perform. The program will also include Strauss's *Thunder and Lightning Polka* and *Pleasure Troin Polka*, Emil Waldteufel's *Skaters' Waltz*, and Franz von Suppé's *Light Cavalry Overture*.

The concert will be conducted by Edwin Outwater and feature Canadian soprano Sharla Nafziger as soloist.

Mr. Outwater is music director of the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony in Ontario, Canada. He was resident-conductor of the San Francisco Symphony from 2001 to 2006. This season, he will conduct the Chicago Symphony, BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, and San Francisco Opera, and debut with the Toronto, Victoria, Oregon, and Memphis Symphonies.

Ms. Nafziger will perform a trio of pieces, "Spiel ich die Unschuld vom Lande" and "Mein Herr Marquis" from *Die Fledermous*, and "Voices of Spring" from Lehar's *The Merry Widow*. This season, she is singing with the Houston, Toronto, and Huntsville Symphonies, Buffalo Philharmonic, Na-

tional Chorale at Avery Fisher Hall, Mormon Tabernacle Choir, El Paso Opera, and, in Canada, the symphonies of Calgary, Edmonton, Nova Scotia, Kitchener-Waterloo, and Windsor.

For more information about the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, visit www.njsymphony.org.

Young Pianist Competition Announces 2009 Schedule

The Young Pianist Competition of New Jersey has announced the schedule for its 19th annual Concerto, Ensemble (for one and two pianos), and Chamber Music Competitions.

The competition's winners' recitals are held at Steinway Hall in New York City. Past affiliations with the Central Jersey Symphony Orchestra and the Westfield Symphony Orchestra have also presented the concerto winners in concert with orchestra.

The preliminary round is by an audio tape/CD. A recording and application should be mailed to the Young Pianist Competition of New Jersey by January 5, 2009. The semi-final round will be held at Steinway Hall. The final round, on February 21 at Steinway Hall, will be a public concert at which the finalists will perform in front of an audience and a jury.

The competition is open to young pianists aged 4 to 18 in New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania. For information on the events, competition membership, and an application, write to YPNPJ, P.O. Box 3, Martinsville, N.J. 08836 or visit www.youngpianist.org.

The competition also offers an opportunity to participate

in the Musica in Laguna Festival in Venice in July. A faculty and administrative affiliation with the festival offers comprehensive workshops, competitions, and recitals for pianists, with a concerto concentration and a chance to perform with the Orchestra Sinfonica del Festival di Chioggia. Prizewinners are eligible for a tuition scholarship to the festival.

Trenton's Capital Singers To Perform at St. Paul's

The Capital Singers of Trenton will present "Winter Songs III" on Friday, January 30 at 8 p.m. at St. Paul's Church, 214 Nassau Street. They will be joined by the Trenton Community Singers, a 70-voice ensemble.

The concert will also be presented on Friday, January 23 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Ann Church in Bristol, Pa.

The program will include a blend of classical and contemporary music, featuring works from Mendelssohn to Rutter. Richard M. Loatman, Artistic Director of both groups, will conduct. Timothy Brown, Richard Ludlum, and Louis Goldberg will be the accompanists.

The Capital Singers of Trenton is a 30-voice mixed ensemble dedicated to enhancing the art of choral singing, performing patriotic selections at city and county events, and creating opportunities of service for the Trenton community.

St. Ann Church is located at 357 Dorrance St. in Bristol, PA. There will be a free will offering during the concert in lieu of tickets. For more information, call (609) 620-0160 or visit www.capitalsingers.org.

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"Virginia Woolf" Due At MCCC in January

The Edward Albee classic *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* will kick off the new year with a two-weekend run at Mercer County Community College's Kelsey Theatre. Performances will be Fridays and Saturdays, January 9, 10, 16, and 17 at 8 p.m., and Sundays, January 11 and 18 at 2 p.m.

A reception with the cast and crew will follow the opening night performance on January 9.

Set on the campus of a small New England university, the play introduces George and Martha, one of the most unhappily married couples ever depicted on stage, as they return home from a party at her father's house. Despite the late hour, they are expecting post-party guests — Nick, a young faculty member, and his wife Honey. Soon Nick and Honey become pawns in a nasty chess game, as George and Martha's efforts to humiliate each other become increasingly shrill. By the third act, Nick and Honey have reluctantly joined in the fray, revealing some embarrassing secrets of their own.

John Shaken-Kaye of Huntingdon Valley, Pa. will star as George, Ruth Markoe of Lawrenceville as Martha, Danny Siegel of Princeton as Nick, and Ashley Stuart of Princeton Junction as Honey. Presented by PinnWorth Productions, the show will be directed by Lou Stalsworth of Allentown, N.J.

Asked why he selected the play, Mr. Stalsworth said, "It is simply the finest American play, period. No time qualifiers are required.

Its dialogue, its honesty, its compelling examination of a marriage held together by emotional spit-and-glue makes it a show any director can throw himself into."

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? was first performed in New York in 1962, where it captured the New York Drama Critics Circle Award and the Tony Award for the 1962-63 season. The 1966 film version starred Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor, with George Segal and Sandy Dennis playing the younger couple.

Tickets are \$14 for adults, \$12 for seniors, and \$10 for students and children, and may be ordered by calling the Kelsey Box Office at (609) 570-3333 or by visiting www.kelseytheatre.net.

The Kelsey Theatre is located on MCCC's West Windsor campus at 1200 Old Trenton Road.

Arts Council to Present Playwrights' Workshop

On Thursday, December 18 from 7:30 to 9 p.m., the Arts Council of Princeton will offer a screen/play writer's workshop with Robeson Center Artist in Residence Charles Evered. The event will mark the culmination of Mr. Evered's six-month residency at the Robeson Center.

The workshop is for aspiring writers and directors. Mr. Evered, a screenwriter and playwright, will share his experience on how to make a living as a writer and navigate the changes in the entertainment industry. Participants will learn how best to submit work to producers, find an agent,

work with name actors, and decide whether to enroll in a writing program or film school.

The Arts Council has presented several programs featuring Mr. Evered's work. In 2006, he organized a reading of his play *Adopt a Sailor*. The play became his first feature film in 2008 and was screened at the Robeson Center in November with the actress Bebe Neuwirth, who stars in the film, in attendance. He also presented a reading of his play *Class* at the Robeson Center in September, starring Ms. Neuwirth and Roger Rees.

Admission for the writer's workshop is \$15 or \$12 for members. It will take place at the Paul Robeson Center, 102 Witherspoon Street. To register, visit www.artscouncilofprinceton.org or call (609) 924-8777.



BATTLING AT MCCC: The cast of "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?," opening Friday, January 9 at Mercer County Community College's Kelsey Theatre, will be, from left, Ruth Markoe as Martha, Danny Siegel as Nick, Ashley Stuart as Honey, and John Shaken-Kaye as George. The Edward Albee drama earned a New York Drama Critics Circle Award and Tony Award following its first season (1962-63) on Broadway. For tickets, call (609) 570-3333.

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A McCARTER TRADITION: James Ludwig, left, is starring as Bob Cratchit with Matthew Kuenne of Princeton as Tiny Tim in McCarter Theatre's annual presentation of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," continuing through December 28. Called "a must-see" by The New York Times, the production features, for the first time, the renowned Irish actor Dermot Crowley as Ebenezer Scrooge. Michael Unger is directing the show for the 9th consecutive year. Tickets range from \$31 to \$55 and may be purchased by contacting McCarter Theatre's ticket office at (609) 258-2787 or online at www.mccarter.org.

(Photo by T. Charles Erickson)

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CINEMA REVIEW

Sean Penn Shines as Gay Pioneer Harvey Milk

Harvey Milk (1930-1978) was a trailblazing pioneer in 1977 when he became the first openly gay person to be elected to a political office in the State of California. The outspoken activist had represented San Francisco's Castro District as a City Supervisor for less than a year when he and Mayor George Moscone (Victor Garber) were murdered by Dan White (Josh Brolin), a disgruntled rival and former Supervisor. The assassination turned Milk into a martyr, and to this day he is as a symbol of courage and hope for homosexuals everywhere.

Milk, directed by Gus Van Sant, is an historical account of the rise and sudden fall of a cult hero and it is also an intimate character study of a complicated personality. The film stars Academy Award winner Sean Penn (Mystic River), who should be a shoo-in for his fifth Oscar nomination for his performance in the title role.

The picture couldn't be more timely, in light of the controversy surrounding the recent passage of Proposition 8 which bans same sex marriages in California. The opening shows a black and white collage of archival footage of arrests and intimidations of homosexuals, and of police raids of gay bars during less enlightened times. The opening sequence ends with an ashen faced fellow Supervisor Diane Feinstein announcing the murders of Milk and Moscone.

Harvey Milk then proceeds to narrate his story in a series of flashbacks. He presumably had a premonition of his impending fate and dictated a memoir into a tape recorder shortly before he was killed. The narration begins with "This is only to be played in the event of my death by assassination." The scene then shifts to New York City on his 40th birthday when he met Scott Smith (James Franco), a handsome young newcomer from Jackson, Mississippi.

Love blossoms despite their considerable difference in age, and in 1972 they decide to move to San Francisco and open a camera shop. Now out of the closet, a flamboyant Harvey is shocked by the bigotry he encounters because of his sexual preference in a city that is supposedly tolerant. As a consequence, Harvey becomes a gay activist and community organizer and forges allegiances with labor, blacks, and other groups.

Unfortunately, his activism takes a toll on his relationship with Scott, who moves out and is eventually replaced by a boyfriend (Diego Luna) who is more in agreement with Harvey's political agenda. His first two election bids (in 1973 and 1975) fail, however, he finally enjoys the sweet taste of victory after a hard fought campaign in 1977, only to be assassinated within a year by Dan White. At the trial White got off with a relative slap on the wrist after his attorney used what later came to be known as the "Twinkies made me do it" defense.

Hauntingly, Harvey's voiceover persists in the picture posthumously, exhorting the masses to continue the movement, not only on behalf of homosexuals, but for all disenfranchised people. Expect to shed a few tears during the closing credits when real life photos and updates of the principals portrayed in the movie are shown together with the actors playing them.


A biopic that humanizes an icon and simultaneously conveys the significance of Milk's ideals on our culture. Excellent (★★★★). Rated R for profanity, sexuality, and violence. Running time: 130 minutes. Studio: Focus Features.

—Kam Williams



SUCCESS AT LAST: Finally, after his third attempt, Harvey Milk (Sean Penn) celebrates his victory in the race for the office of Supervisor in the Castro district of San Francisco. Sadly he was assassinated by a homophobe within his first year in office.

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AT THE CINEMA

Australia (PG-13 for violence, sensuality, and profanity). A romance drama, set at the beginning of World War II just before the bombing of Darwin by the Japanese, chronicles the love relationship which blossoms between a genteel heiress (Nicole Kidman) and the rough-hewn rancher (Hugh Jackman) who helps her drive a herd of 2,000 head of cattle to market across hundreds of miles of unforgiving terrain. Aborigines in the cast include David Gulpilil, Brandon Walters, and David Ngoombujarra.

Bolt (PG for mild action and scenes of peril). Disney animated adventure about a German Shepherd TV star (John Travolta) who discovers he doesn't really have any superpowers after being accidentally shipped from Hollywood to New York City when he has to embark on a humbling cross-country trek home with the help of a cat (Susie Essman) and a hamster (Mark Walton). Voice cast includes Miley Cyrus, James Lipton, Malcolm McDowell, and wrestler Randy Savage.

Cadillac Records (R for sexuality and pervasive profanity). Historical drama chronicles the rise of the legendary record company founded in Chicago in the fifties by Leonard (Adrien Brody) and Phil Chess (Shiloh Fernandez), siblings who roamed the south in search of promising talent, and discovered such future musical greats as Muddy Waters (Jeffrey Wright), Etta James (Beyoncé), Chuck Berry (Mos Def), Howlin' Wolf (Eamonn Walker) and Willie Dixon (Cedric the Entertainer). With Emmanuelle Chriqui, Columbus Short, Gabrielle Union, and Eric Bogosian.

The Day the Earth Stood Still (PG-13 for violence and disaster images). Keanu Reeves stars in this remake of the 1951 sci-fi classic about an alien who arrives on Earth with an indestructible robot to issue a dire warning for humanity about living in harmony with nature. Ensemble includes Jennifer Connelly, Kathy Bates, John Cleese, and Jaden Smith.

Delgo (PG for action violence). Freddie Prinze, Jr. plays the title character in this animated fantasy about a naïve teenager who intervenes in the longstanding feud between his terrestrial people and a race of winged creatures after he falls in love with the other species' beautiful princess (Jennifer Love Hewitt). Voice cast includes Lou Gossett, Jr., Kelly Ripa, Michael Clarke Duncan, Burt Reynolds, Sally Kellerman, Val Kilmer, Chris Kattan, Eric Idle, and the late Anne Bancroft.

Doubt (PG-13 for mature themes). Drama set in the Bronx in 1964, about a nun (Meryl Streep) serving as a Catholic school principal who becomes suspicious about her parish priest's (Philip Seymour Hoffman) motivations when he takes a special interest in her first black student (Joseph Foster). Cast includes Viola Davis and Amy Adams.

Four Christmases (PG-13 for profanity and sexual humor). Family comedy, set in San Francisco, about an unhappily married couple (Vince Vaughn and Reese Witherspoon) forced to spend the holidays with several sets of relatives after their plans for an exotic getaway are ruined when the fog rolls in. Cast includes Robert Duvall, Mary Steenburgen, Dwight Yoakam, Tim McGraw, Jon Voight, Sissy Spacek, Jon Favreau, and Kristin Chenoweth.

Frost/Nixon (R for profanity). Ron Howard directs this screen adaptation of the Tony-winning Broadway play recounting the series of television interviews conducted by British talk show David Frost (Michael Sheen) with Richard Nixon (Frank Langella) in 1977, three years after the disgraced U.S. President resigned from office in the wake of the Watergate scandal. Supporting cast includes Toby Jones, Kevin Bacon, Oliver Platt, and Sam Rockwell.

Gran Tarina (R for profanity, ethnic slurs, and violence). Clint Eastwood directed and co-stars in this drama about a recently widowed Korean war veteran who begrudgingly befriends his Asian-American next-door neighbor (Bee Vang) after the troubled teen tries to steal his classic muscle car. Cast includes Brian Haley, Christopher Carley, and John Carroll Lynch.

I've Loved You So Long (PG-13 for smoking and mature themes). Drama about the readjustment to real life of a recently paroled ex-convict (Kristin Scott Thomas) with the help of her younger sister (Elsa Zylberstein) after spending 15 years in prison for the murder of her 6-year-old son. In French and English with subtitles.

Modogascar: Escape 2 Africa (PG for mild crude humor). Animated adventure finds the colorful menagerie of domesticated New York zoo animals again struggling to survive in the wilds of the African jungle. Voice cast includes Cedric the Entertainer, Sacha Baron Cohen, Jada Pinkett Smith, Chris Rock, David Schwimmer, Ben Stiller, Will I Am, Tommy 'Tiny' Lister, and the late Bernie Mac.

Milk (R for profanity, sexuality, and violence). Sean Penn plays Harvey Milk in this biopic about the gay San Francisco politician assassinated in 1978 by a Republican colleague (Josh Brolin) who successfully raised the "Twinkie defense" to beat the murder rap. Cast includes James Franco, Emile Hirsch, Alison Pill, and Diego Luna.

Nothing Like the Holidays (PG-13 for drug references, mature themes, and sexual dialogue). Dysfunctional family comedy about three Puerto Rican siblings (John Leguizamo, Vanessa Ferlito, and Freddy Rodriguez) who reunite at their parents' (Alfred Molina and Elizabeth Pena) home in Chicago for a turbulent Christmas vacation marked by the revelation of a big secret leading to a reordering of life priorities.

Punisher: War Zone (R for pervasive violence, profanity, and drug use). Ray Stevenson takes over the title role from Thomas Jane in this sequel as the vigilante superhero of comic book fame who is now waging a one-man war against an organized crime syndicate run by a vicious mobster known as Jigsaw (Dominic West).

Quantum of Solace (PG-13 for sexuality, violence, and intense action sequences). Daniel Craig returns for his second movie as James Bond for a mission which pits 007 against a diabolical villain (Mathieu Amalric) bent on controlling one of the world's most critical natural resources. Cast includes Dame Judi Dench, Jesper Christensen, Jeffrey Wright, Olga Kurylenko, and Gemma Arterton.

Seven Pounds (PG-13 for mature themes, sensuality, and disturbing content). Will Smith stars in this tale of redemption about a guilt-ridden widower who opts to perform seven acts of kindness for perfect strangers before committing suicide. Cast includes Rosario Dawson, Woody Harrelson, Barry Pepper, and Michael Ealy.

Slumdog Millionaire (R for violence, profanity, and disturbing images). Romantic comedy, set in Mumbai, about an 18-year-old street urchin (Dev Patel) who becomes a TV contestant on India's version of *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire* not for the money but to win back the heart of the girl (Freida Pinto) of his dreams. In English and Hindi with subtitles.

The Tale of Despereaux (G) Animated adventure about a big-eared mouse (Matthew Devereaux) challenged to summon up the courage to save a beautiful princess (Emma Watson) kidnapped by an evil rat (Dustin Hoffman). Voice cast includes Frank Langella, Sigourney Weaver, Christopher Lloyd, Kevin Kline, Richard Jenkins, William H. Macy, Tracy Ullman, and Stanley Tucci.

Transporter 3 (PG-13 for violence, intense action, sexuality, and drug use). High-octane adventure with Jason Statham returning as the gruff two-fisted chauffeur on a mission where he falls in love with the kidnapped daughter (Natalya Rudakova) of a powerful Ukrainian politician (Jeroen Krabbe) while driving her from Marseilles to Odessa through a gauntlet of mob goons.

Twilight (PG-13 for violence and sensuality). Horror film revolving around the unlikely romance which arises between a beautiful young woman (Kristen Stewart) and a mysterious immortal vampire (Robert Pattinson) irresistibly lured by her primal scent.

The Wrestler (R for violence, nudity, sexuality, profanity, and drug use). Mickey Rourke plays the title role in this drama about a washed-up pro wrestler who comes out of retirement despite suffering a heart attack for one last match against his old nemesis (Ernest Miller). Supporting cast includes Marisa Tomei, Evan Rachel Wood, and Judah Friedlander.

Yes Man (PG-13 for profanity, sexuality, crude humor, and brief nudity). Jim Carrey comedy about a guy in a self-help program which has him answering "yes" to every question for a year. With Zooey Deschanel, Bradley Cooper, and Sasha Alexander.

—Kam Williams

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Fri-Sat 1:50, 3:25, 4:30, 6:10, 7:10, 8:55, 9:50
Sun-Tues 1:50, 3:25, 4:30, 6:10, 7:10
Wed 1:50, 3:25, 4:30
Thurs 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50 (R)

MILK

Fri-Sat 1:40, 3:20, 4:25, 6:05, 7:10, 8:50, 9:55
Sun-Tues 1:40, 3:20, 4:25, 6:05, 7:10
Wed 1:40, 3:20, 4:25
Thurs 1:40, 4:25, 7:10, 9:55 (R)

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Thurs 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:55 (PG13)

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Wed, Dec. 24: 7:00
Thurs, Dec. 25:
1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00 (R)
2:15

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE

Fri, Dec. 19: 4:15, 6:45, 9:15
Sat, Dec. 20:
12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15
Sun, Dec. 21:
2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
Mon-Tues, Dec. 22-23: 6:45, 9:15
Wed, Dec. 24: 7:00
Thurs, Dec. 25:
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Slumdog Millionaire (R) Fri., 4:15, 6:45, 9:15; Sat., 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; Sun., 2, 4:30, 7, 9:30; Mon. & Tues., 6:45, 9:15; Weds., 7; Thurs., 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15

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Slumdog Millionaire (R) Fri. & Sat., 1:50, 3:25, 4:30, 6:10, 7:10, 8:55, 9:50; Sun.-Tues., 1:50, 3:25, 4:30, 6:10, 7:10; Weds., 1:50, 3:25, 4:30; Thurs. 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
Milk (R) Fri. & Sat., 1:40, 3:20, 4:25, 6:05, 7:10, 8:50, 9:55; Sun.-Tues., 1:40, 3:20, 4:25, 6:05, 7:10; Weds., 1:40, 3:20, 4:25; Thurs. 1:40, 4:25, 7:10, 9:55
Valkyrie (PG13) Thurs. 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:55
Doubt (PG13) Thurs. 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45
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Sports

With Downs Providing Offensive Surge, Tiger Women's Hoops Showing Growth

Over the first 79 games of her career with the Princeton University women's basketball team, Whitney Downs averaged 5.9 points a game.

Priding herself on her ability to play defense and make steals, the 5'11 Downs didn't see herself as an offensive force for the Tigers.

But then in game 80 of her career, something strange happened as Downs and her teammates played at No. 3 California on December 6 in the Collier's International Classic.

Downs suddenly became an offensive whiz, exploding for a career-high 24 points, hitting on 9 of 13 shots as the Tigers gamely battled Cal in a 75-53 loss.

The performance changed Downs' view of her role with the Tigers. "When you have the best game of your life against the No. 3 team in the nation, you get confidence," said the senior co-captain from Franklin, Tenn.

"You feel like you should be able to help the team like that every game because you are not going to play against any more athletic or skilled players."



GOOD MOVE: Princeton University women's basketball player Devona Allgood drops in a shot in a game earlier this season. Last Friday, 6'3 freshman Allgood scored 11 points and chipped in seven rebounds and five blocked shots as Princeton topped visiting Monmouth 52-41. In upcoming action, Princeton, now 4-5, plays at American on December 19 and at George Washington on December 21.

(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

Since that night in Berkeley, Downs has become a go-to offensive player for Princeton. A day after the game against Cal, she scored a team-high 15 points in a 53-51 loss to St. Louis, solidifying her spot on the Collier's All-Tournament team.

Last Friday, Downs scored 11 points to help Princeton top visiting Monmouth 52-41.

Against Sacred Heart last Sunday, Downs struggled in the first half scoring just three points as the Tigers found themselves down 31-22 at halftime.

But fulfilling her new role, Downs scored 10 points in the second half as Princeton rallied to cut the Sacred Heart lead to 59-56 in the waning moments of the contest.

The Tigers nearly cut the margin to one with less than a minute to go as Downs twisted to the basket and had a runner just rim out. The Tigers rebounded the missed shot and scored the last five points of the game to pull out a 64-56 triumph.

While Downs was disappointed with the result, she liked the resolve shown by the Tigers as they clawed their way back into the game.

"We showed a lot of heart," asserted Downs. "After cutting the lead to three [at 44-41], they had a five-point possession. We could have hung our heads and given up after that but we fought back and we were in it. My shot that rimmed out would've cut it to one. That was a tough break; it was a good look. That shot goes in 80 percent of the time."

Princeton made its breaks in the second half by getting on the same page offensively.

"We have to play within our offense more consistently," added Downs. "You saw that in the second half, we shot a higher percentage. We got better looks when we were playing within the offense; we were working together as five people to set up shots."

As she took the floor for the second half, Downs was looking to get her shots. "Coach [Courtney Banghart] reiterated at half that she thought we could take this team off the dribble and penetrate more," said Downs.

"That's pretty much my game so I tried to do that. My shots didn't all fall from

the outside so I knew I had to get to the hole more."

Recognizing how to best utilize her aggressiveness has helped Downs go on her recent scoring surge.

"Coach Banghart has really helped me understand how to utilize my strengths on our offense, whether it is through backdoor cuts or seeing the driving angles and going to the basket," explained Downs, who is now averaging 11.9 points a game, tying her with sophomore Addie Micir for the team lead.

"She has really helped me understand where my points are going to come from and then my teammates are doing a great job of setting me up and giving me great passes and screens. I am just trying to be more patient and let the game come to me more."

Head coach Banghart likes the game Downs has been showing recently. "Whitney has been key for our team's growth," asserted Banghart. "Her love of the game has never been in question but to see the growth of her offense has been a pleasure. She was in double figures again tonight but shooting 3-of-11 is not good enough. We need her consistency to be back but her effort over the first nine games of the year has been great. I am so proud of the girl."

Princeton's offensive execution in the second half had Banghart feeling proud.

"I thought we were more aggressive in the second half," said Banghart, whose team outscored Sacred Heart 34-33 over the last 20 minutes of the game.

"I thought our screening was more relevant in the second half; we were playing at a better pace so we had openings. The second half is how we need to play for 40 minutes and then we'll be fine."

The Tigers got some good play in the second half from freshmen Lauren Edwards and Devona Allgood. Edwards ended the game with 10 points and three assists while Allgood chipped in eight points and eight rebounds.

"They are certainly doing well," said Banghart. "Devona is a rookie playing against an All-American center [Kaitlin Sowinski]; she had a tough time guarding her or otherwise I would have been happy to keep her in all game. Those two just get better every game so I am excited for them to play come January. They don't look like rookies."

Banghart liked the way the her squad progressed as it split its weekend games.



LATE SURGE: Princeton University women's basketball star Whitney Downs drives to the basket in recent action. Last Sunday, Downs chipped in 13 points but it wasn't enough as Princeton fell 64-56 to visiting Sacred Heart. Downs has averaged 15.8 points a game in her last four outings to help Princeton move to 4-5 on the season. The 5'11 native of Franklin, Tenn. has been on a tear since exploding for a career-high 24 points against California on December 6.

(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

"We won Friday and didn't necessarily play so well," said Banghart. "The first half tonight wasn't very good and then in the second half, I thought we played pretty well. At this point in the season I just want to be playing well and growing. Everything is about preparing for the Ivy League season."

The Tigers will get the chance for some more growth this weekend as they head down to Washington, D.C. to play at American on December 19 and at George Washington on December 21.

"Both of them are good teams; both are experienced," added Banghart. "They are big games for us, they fit in well with what we need. We need to test ourselves and they will be a good fit for that."

Downs, for her part, is ready for the final tests of her Princeton career. "At the beginning of the season you think it's going to last forever but as you tick off the calendar days, you realize that it's going quickly and every game is precious," said Downs.

"The seniors have a sense of urgency; we want to do as much as we can to impact this program positively this year and in the years to come. We are trying to build a foundation with hard work."

If Downs can keep up her scoring surge, she could have quite an impact on Princeton's fortunes this winter.

—Bill Alden



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Showing Pendant for Faltering at Crunch Time, Tiger Men's Hoops Loses to Rutgers, Manhattan

Even though his Princeton University men's hoops team had dropped four of its first six games this season, Tiger head coach Sydney Johnson was pumped up for the matchup last Wednesday against visiting Rutgers.

"My playing days aren't too far removed," said Johnson, a 1997 Princeton alum and former Tigers hoops standout.

"I was so excited to come to the gym today and try to win this game. I looked at Jason Briggs and Nick Lake and I could see the excitement in their eyes. We want to compete."

Hours after arriving at Jadwin Gym, however, Johnson's excitement turned to frustration.

The Tigers competed hard as they bounced back from a 44-38 deficit with 6:11 left in the second half to knot the game at 44-44 with 3:55 left in regulation. Princeton, though, never scored again as Rutgers went on a 5-0 run to pull out a 49-44 win

before a Jadwin crowd of 2,912.

The loss left Princeton winless at home this season as the Tigers again displayed their penchant for falling short in close games. Princeton had lost its first two home contests by two points (a 55-53 loss to Central Michigan) and three (a 58-55 overtime setback to Maine) coming into the Rutgers game.

Johnson couldn't pinpoint why his team is struggling at home. "I think we are playing good teams; we obviously haven't executed," said Johnson.

"Whether it's offense or defense, we just haven't made that big play. I find it ironic going into the season, the big thing was oh are you going to win a road game. I heard a lot about that. We have won a couple of road games. Obviously we want to win at home, we want to win on the road. The same things have to happen; we have to have the effort, we

have to care about each other."

The second-year coach made no effort to hide his disappointment at the loss to the Scarlet Knights.

"It's very frustrating," asserted Johnson, who got 11 points from Dan Mavrides with Zach Finley adding eight and Pawel Buczak chipping in seven points and seven rebounds.

"I would say that is not a strong enough word but I've got little kids to think about. I can assure you we will bounce back. With all due respect to Rutgers, we just want to beat people across the board. We want to win games like this. It was important for us to beat CMU and Maine. We have come up short and it doesn't sit right. We are the only ones that can fix it."

Last Sunday, Princeton didn't fix things as it played at Manhattan and the game followed a depressingly familiar script.

After falling behind by 37-28 early in the second half, Princeton narrowed the deficit to 48-45 with 9:11 remaining in regulation.

Getting outscored 22-15 the rest of the way, Princeton never got closer than six points as it dropped a 70-60 decision and fell to 2-6 on the season.

In the process, the Tigers squandered career bests from freshman guard Doug Davis, a former Hun School standout, and junior Pawel Buczak. Davis poured in 27 points on 10-of-18 shooting with six three-pointers while 6'9" Buczak dropped in 15 points as he shot 7-of-8 from the floor.

While the Princeton defense had been making progress lately, the Tigers couldn't contain Manhattan guard Chris Smith, who burned the Tigers for 35 points.

"He (Smith) hurt us early and then we were chasing the game which makes it really hard to get into it," said Johnson as quoted on the Princeton sports website.

"We did and then a couple of other times down the road, we couldn't turn the corner. That's been our season right now, but we have to move on."

The Tigers, who will now move on to a game at Central Connecticut State on December 20, will hope to produce a more cheerful ending before they head into their holiday break.

—Bill Alden



ABOVE THE CROWD: Princeton University men's basketball junior center Pawel Buczak fires a hook shot in Princeton's 49-44 loss to visiting Rutgers last Wednesday. This past Sunday, Buczak scored a career-high 15 points but it wasn't enough as the Tigers lost 70-60 at Manhattan. Princeton, now 2-6, plays at Central Connecticut State on December 20.

(Photo by Stephen Goldsmith)

PU Sports Roundup

Tiger Women's Soccer Places 3 on All-Region Team

Three Princeton University women's soccer players were recently recognized with a spot on the 2008 NSCAA All-Mid-Atlantic Region teams.

Senior Taylor Numann earned a place on the first-team all-region, the first time since 2004 a Tiger has earned top regional honors. Also a first-team All-Ivy honoree, Numann was recognized all four years on either the first-team or second-team All-Ivy as a defensive standout.

Seniors Sarah Peteraf, a midfielder, and Lisa Chinn, a defender, each received third-team honors after each were also recognized as a first-team All-Ivy player. Peteraf had a breakout season with 12 goals to lead the Tigers to their first NCAA tournament berth since 2004.

PU's Culbreath, 9 Others Make All-Ivy Academic Team

Princeton University's 10 fall All-Ivy Academic honorees were recently named by the league office. Those honored included Jordan Culbreath, a junior football player and mechanical and aerospace engineering major; Andrew Dixon, a se-

nior sprint football player and comparative literature major; Will Thanheiser, a senior football player and politics major; Devin Muntz, a junior men's soccer player and molecular biology major; Michael Naag, a senior men's cross country runner and economics major; Candice Arner, a senior field hockey star and psychology major; Parker Henritze, a senior volleyball player and politics major; Megan Brandeland, a senior cross country runner and ecology and evolutionary biology major; Jolee VanLeuven, a senior cross country runner and history major; and Sarah Peteraf, a senior women's soccer player and politics major.

The honorees were starters or key reserves on an officially recognized varsity team with 3.0 or better cumulative grade point averages. Each school nominated five men and women for the honor.

Tiger Wrestling Gets 2nd Win

Senior star Marty Everin came up big as the Princeton University wrestling team topped Delaware State 34-12 last Saturday as part of a quad-meet at Dillon Gym.

Everin, wrestling at 157 pounds, defeated Brandon Garner to help the Tigers earn their second dual match win of the season. Other winners for Princeton in the victory over Delaware State included Nikhil Pereira at 133, Daniel Kolodzik at 141, Andy

Lowy at 165, and Travis Erdman at 184.

While Everin posted wins in his two other bouts on Saturday, it wasn't enough as Princeton fell 24-18 to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and 33-12 to Binghamton University.

On Sunday, the Tigers dropped a 46-3 decision at powerful Maryland as freshman Kurt Brendel picked up the only win for Princeton at 184.

In upcoming action, the Tigers, now 2-6, travel to Pennsylvania where they wrestle against Millersville and Lock Haven on December 20.

Freshman Star Reinprecht Earns Another Honor

Princeton University field hockey freshman star Katie Reinprecht added another honor to her list of accolades from her debut campaign as she was recently named the 2008 ECAC Division I Rookie of the Year and an ECAC D-I All-Star.

Reinprecht, who led the Tigers and the Ivy League in scoring, was eighth nationally with 2.39 points per game as Princeton posted a 17-3 record and advanced to the NCAA quarterfinals for the second time in three years.

The North Wales, Pa. native, who had 15 goals and 13 assists this fall, was also named the Ivy League Player of the Year, a first-team All-Ivy selection, and a second-team All-America.



MINNESOTA WILD: Princeton University women's hockey player Julie Johnson streaks up the ice in a game earlier this season. Last Saturday, freshman forward Johnson scored two goals to help Princeton upset defending national champion and third-ranked Minnesota-Duluth 4-3. A day later, the Tigers finished the two-game set by tallying 3-0 to the Bulldogs to move to 7-8-1 overall on the season. Princeton senior goalie Kristen Young recorded 45 saves in a losing cause. The Tigers are on their holiday break and will return to action when they play at Harvard on January 3 and at Dartmouth on January 4.

(Photo by Bill Allen/T&J SportAction)

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Princeton Native Mooney Stars in Midfield As Amherst Men's Soccer Makes Final Four

James Mooney isn't the kind of soccer player who immediately catches your eye.

The 5'11, 163-pound Mooney isn't a prolific goal scorer nor does he possess dazzling ball skills.

Instead, Mooney's forte centers around doing the grunt work on the field, chasing down balls and making the most of the chances that he creates through his hustle.

Making the move from the Lawrenceville School boys' team to Amherst College men's squad this fall, the Princeton native was a little-used reserve in the early stages of the season as the Lord Jeffs got off to a pedestrian 5-3 start.

But gaining the confidence of his coaches and his teammates through his work rate and knack for coming up with clutch plays, Mooney worked his way into the starting lineup.

"In the beginning I was playing up front because the coach liked the way I chased the ball down," said Mooney, who helped the Princeton Union 90 club team win the U-16 New Jersey Cup title in 2007.

"Later on I moved to a midfield role on the wing; doing a lot of running. I really liked it."

As Mooney's role increased, the Lord Jeffs caught fire, putting together a 10-0-3 run on the way to winning the New England Small College Athletic Con-

ference (NESCAC) title and advancing to the NCAA Division III Final Four.

While the Lord Jeffs ended the season on a disappointing note by falling 4-1 to Steven Tech in the national semis to end 15-4-3, Mooney won't soon forget his first college campaign.

"We were so excited to be there, it's something you remember the rest of your life," said Mooney. "There was so much emotion going into the game; it was such an intense experience."

During the preseason, though, the intensity of college soccer presented a severe challenge for Mooney.

"It is a short preseason due to D-II rules but it was probably the most difficult preseason I have ever had," asserted Mooney.

"We had three-a-day practices. We were getting up at 6:30 a.m., getting in seven or eight hours of soccer a day. I was focused on eating right and going to bed so I was rested. The first day started at 7 in the morning; we went to track where everybody had to run two miles in under 12 minutes. I did well in the run and that helped me fit in."

Scoring his first college goal in a win over Suffolk in late September helped Mooney fit in even better with his teammates.

"We were up by a lot when I came in; I put away my first touch," recalled Mooney.

"It felt really good; I started feeling a lot more confi-

dent because I knew I could score in college. I was feeling a lot more confident in practice and the coach gave me more chances to show myself and I started to play better and better."

One of Mooney's better moments of the season came when he scored a goal to help Amherst to a critical regular season win over Trinity (Conn.).

"Nicky Lynch sent a ball in and I one-timed it," said Mooney. "It was probably my best goal of the season."

Later in the NESCAC playoffs, Mooney scored the lone goal in a 1-0 win over Trinity although that strike wasn't necessarily a thing of beauty.

"Everybody makes fun of that goal; it trickled by the goalie," said Mooney with a chuckle. "Everybody on the sideline was kind of shocked but a goal is a goal. I was so excited."

Mooney was excited to be a part of Amherst's stunning NCAA tournament run which nearly ended in the opening round when the Lord Jeffs had to go to penalty shots to top Western New England College.

"After that first game, we felt it was our destiny to keep winning," said Mooney.

"I have never been on a team with such a bond between players and the coaches. We wanted to keep playing and practicing; the coach [Justin Serpone] told us to see the outcome. We

willed ourselves to win those games; we didn't score many goals in the tournament."

After the win over Western New England, Amherst edged St. Lawrence 1-0 in the second round and then nipped Swarthmore 1-0 in the Round of 16.

In the quarterfinals, the Lord Jeffs pulled out another squeaker as they edged Trinity (Texas) 1-0 to earn their ticket to the Final Four.

For Mooney, the post-game celebration after the Trinity win will stand out as a major highlight.

"That was awesome; everyone was crying," said Mooney. "It was a crazy experience. We scored in the last five minutes and the rest of the game was ecstasy."

While the Amherst players were thrilled to make the Final Four for the first time since 1997, the extra time together may have been as meaningful as the achievement itself.

"The seniors had a big influence on the team; before every game you could see how much they cared," said Mooney, who ended the season with four goals and an assist.

"Every game could be their last and we didn't want it to end. We wanted to stay together and keep practicing. The first practice after we were back from the Trinity win, the ground was rock solid and it was freezing but we were so happy to be out there."

Amherst head coach Serpone was certainly happy with the contribution he got from Mooney this fall.

"James has exceptional athleticism and speed," said Serpone. "The wide midfield is a good spot for him. He gives us as much defensively as on offense because of his work rate. We joke with him that as a defensive midfielder, I want him to be an outside back and on offense, I want him

to be an outside forward. You have to work your butt off in that position."

Serpone acknowledges that appreciating Mooney's game is an acquired taste. "He sort of goes under the radar; he doesn't stand out at first glance," said Serpone. "But you realize there is no down side to James. You get an honest effort; he can create things for the team. He's not going to get intimidated and he is a handful for the other team."

Mooney, for his part, is preparing to cause even more problems next season for Amherst's foes.

"I want to try to have a more threatening role from the middle; I just want to up everything," vowed Mooney.

"I started some games this year; I want to start most of them next year. The Final Four is always a goal; now that we have done it, we know what it takes."

Mooney knows that it took hard work for him to become a key player for Amherst.

"I'd say I am a much better player now that I am accustomed to college soccer," said Mooney.

"We worked really hard. At the beginning of season we had some bad games and coach got on us and ran us hard. I can see how that paid off."

And giving the understated Mooney a prominent role this fall certainly paid off for the Lord Jeffs.

—Bill Alden



MOONSTRUCK: James Mooney, left, heads a ball this fall during his freshman season with the Amherst College men's soccer team. Mooney, a Princeton native and former Lawrenceville School standout, emerged as a key performer in the midfield for the Lord Jeffs as they advanced to the NCAA Division III Final Four.

(Photo courtesy of Amherst College Sports Information)

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Boasting a Crew of Battle-Tested Veterans, PHS Boys' Hoops Primed for Big Season

Last winter, the Princeton High boys' basketball team produced one of the feel-good stories in local hoops circles.

Rebounding from a 7-15 campaign in 2006-07, the Little Tigers went 12-11 last season and made the state playoffs for the first time since 2001.

While PHS didn't have a long stay in the state tourney, losing to Monmouth in the first round, the Little Tiger players vowed to use the experience as a springboard to bigger and better things.

With the 2008-09 campaign about to get underway, the PHS players appear to have lived up to those promises.

"There is a good vibe around the team, the guys have confidence, maturity, and experience," said second-year PHS head coach Jason Carter, whose team opens its season by hosting Lawrence High on December 19.

"The guys are hungry; they are working hard. They know what's on the line and they want to be part of something special."

PHS may have something very special in the low post in 6'8 senior center A.J. Dowers.

"He has been looking great; he has gotten a lot stronger and his footwork has gotten better," said Carter of Dowers, who averaged 12.4 rebounds and 6.1 blocked shots a game

last season.

"He is more mature; he went to four or five camps last summer. He is being heavily recruited by Division III coaches and that is giving him a lot of confidence. For him to play at next level, he knows he has to dominate in high school."

Another Little Tiger who has the potential to dominate a game is junior forward Skye Ettin, who averaged 10.6 points and 7.6 rebounds in 2007-08 and brings some extra toughness after a fine debut season this past fall for the PHS football team.

"Skye is coming off a great football season; he was a first team All-CVC as defensive back and he led the county in interceptions," said Carter of the slashing 6'4, 165-pound forward.

"It took a lot of courage for him to play football. I can't say enough about his enthusiasm and work ethic. He will do anything we ask of him; he can play all five positions. He is versatile, coachable, and passionate."

Carter believes he has some versatility in his two main frontcourt reserves, juniors Thatcher Foster and Jordan Metro.

"Thatcher Foster is looking extremely good; he's probably our most improved player and that's saying a lot because we have a lot of improved players," said Carter.

"He needs to get a little stronger but he is so savvy on the court; he can handle the ball and rebound. Jordan is like Thatcher; he is a little bit stronger and tougher but not as savvy. He will help us out inside."

High-scoring PHS senior guard DeQuan Holman will be tough for PHS' foes to stop.

"DeQuan had an awesome summer; he played in the Ewing summer league and did well against some of the top teams like Pennsbury, and Ewing," said Carter of the 6'1, 180-pound Holman who led the little tigers in scoring last year with an average of 15.3 points a game.

"He also helped us in Princeton men's summer league. Some days the games would overlap and he played hard. He has put a lot of work in, he is very dedicated. He is distributing the ball more. A lot of times last year, he would try to do it on his own. He is mature, strong, and in terrific shape. He proved last year that he can hit the big shots. He wants the ball in tight situations and his teammates are confident that he can hit those shots."

Carter also has a lot of confidence in senior point guard Brian Dunlap, who is coming off a breakthrough season which saw him average 10.9 points and 3.4 assists a game.

"He has gotten stronger," said Carter of the 6'0, 155-pound Dunlap. "His shot is awesome; he is hitting from five feet behind the 3-point line. He is so smart with the ball. He knows what the team needs; he knows what I want. He is a vocal leader for us; he is a coach on the court."

Another leader for PHS is junior guard Josh Gordon, who can come off the bench and change the momentum of a game.

"Josh had a great foot-

ball season; he made a lot of big plays," said Carter of the 5'7, 170-pound Gordon, who rushed for 991 yards this fall and is also a star sprinter for the PHS track team.

"He's strong, tough, quick, and fast. He is a good complement for either Brian or DeQuan. We will also look to have the three of them on the court at the same time."

PHS has some other guards who should be a nice complement in junior Devon Holman and senior Chris Bechler.

"Devon Holman has stepped up," said Carter. "Chris Bechler is extremely tough; he has filled out. He is an endurance guy from soccer. He is always first in sprints; he has great attitude."

Carter likes the attitude his team is displaying collectively. "We are filled with character guys all through the roster," said Carter. "Each guy brings something different."

In Carter's view, if his players maintain that character, they should write another feel-good story this winter.

"There are going to be wins and losses as the season goes," said Carter. "We can't get too high and let our heads balloon when we do well and can't get too low and hang our heads when we lose. We have to continue to push ourselves and stick together."

—Bill Alden



POST POSITION: Princeton High boys' basketball senior center A.J. Dowers establishes position in the post during a recent preseason scrimmage. The 6'8 Dowers should be formidable in the paint this season as PHS looks to improve on the 12-11 mark it posted last winter. The Little Tigers start their 2008-09 season on December 19 when they host Lawrence High.

(Photo by Stephen Goldsmith)

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With Fiori Dialing Long Distance, Hun Girls' Hoops Produces 4-0 Start

It didn't take long for Cara Fiori to display her outside shooting prowess as the Hun School girls' basketball team hosted Gwynedd-Mercy Academy (Pa.) last Saturday.

Fiori swished a three-pointer in the opening minutes of the contest to put Hun up 3-0.

The 5'11 senior forward hit two more 3-pointers in the first quarter to help set the tone as the Raiders raced out to a 19-2 lead on the way to a 71-18 rout of overmatched Gwynedd-Mercy.

As she reflected on the win which lifted Hun to 4-0 on the season, Fiori enjoyed being able to pick her spots in the one-sided contest.

"I didn't shoot much the whole game but that is my strong point obviously," said Fiori, who ended the

afternoon with 11 points. "I am a shooter."

The Raiders are stocked with shooters, showing their balance in the win Saturday as post-graduate Arielle Collins led the way with 14 points while Jah Leah Ellis chipped in 10 and Cyndra Couch and Onyx Mintah each added nine.

"We have a real good team this year," said Fiori. "Everyone can score; it's hard for teams to match up with us defensively because we have so many scorers. We are strong around the perimeter; we can shoot outside as a team. We also have girls who can play inside."

The addition of Collins, a record-setting guard at Stelnert, has helped jump start the Hun offense.

"Arielle was our missing puzzle piece," explained Fiori. "We turned to Meg

[Rigous] as our point guard last year; she had never played point before. Arielle is definitely helping our team out a lot. She sees the floor; she's a good team player. We love her as a person."

Hun also loves turning up the defensive heat, utilizing full-court pressure to bury Gwynedd-Mercy as the Raiders pitched a shut-out in the third quarter after allowing just nine points in the first half.

"I know we came out pressing hard and obviously we got a pretty good lead to start out with," said Fiori. "We held them to 18 points the whole game."

Hun head coach Bill Holup was happy with his team's hard effort on the defensive end.

"Defense has been a strong trademark of ours the past few years," said Holup.

"The girls love to play defense; it is rare to have that type of personality. A lot of the times, four of the girls will want to just play offense and not really care much about defense. But defense gets us a lot of steals, layups, and open shots. It starts with defense and the girls want to play it. They are aggressive; we have been doing well so far."

While Holup had no qualms with his players' overall effort in the win over Gwynedd-Mercy, he acknowledged that the team's offense is a work in progress.

"You always see something that needs to be worked on," said Holup. "I don't think we executed quite as well because kids had opportunities where there was a defensive breakdown and they immediately went for the shot. I want them to be a little more disciplined at times."

Fiori's early shooting outburst on Saturday, though, impressed Holup. "Cara was hitting those 3s early in the game," said Holup.

"When you see a defense playing hard and then an offensive player hits a 3; that's like a knife in the back. It takes the wind out of a defense. She has been pretty in the clutch the last couple of games hitting those 3s."

Hun has been getting clutch play off the bench from senior forward Ellis.

"Jah-Leah has been doing that all season; she could just as easily start for us, but she has accepted this role right now," said Holup.

"Things may change in the future, who knows. She has given us a terrific spark off the bench. She is full of energy; she is aggressive and that really helps."

It also helps the Raiders to have Collins running things from the point guard spot.

"Arielle doesn't care about scoring," said Holup of Collins who set scoring records during her storied career at Steinert.

"She'll shoot the ball and take the layup when it's there but she won't force it. She looks for other people. If you are open, she will find you. She's been great with that. I think her and Meg are in terrific synch with each other."

Holup is hoping his players can get even more in synch with each other as the season goes on.

"We are always striving to get better, I don't want to put a cap on how we good we can be," said Holup, whose team plays at Army Prep on December 18 before going on holiday break.

"It's a long season and as long as everyone stays healthy and stays unselfish, it will be a very positive experience for all of us."

Fiori, for her part, senses a positive vibe around the Hun squad. "We are friends on and off the court; that always helps," said Fiori.

"There are a few times when we are not looking for each other. For the most part, I think we are playing as a team; we are off to a good start."

—Bill Alden



AIR FORCE: Hun School girls' basketball post-graduate star Arielle Collins flies to the hoop on her way to a 14-point effort in Hun's 71-18 rout of Gwynedd-Mercy Academy last Saturday. Hun, which improved to 4-0 with the victory, plays at Army Prep on December 18 before going on holiday break.

(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)



BEYOND THE ARC: Hun School girls' basketball senior star Cara Fiori lofts a three-point shot in Hun's 71-18 win over visiting Gwynedd-Mercy Academy (Pa.) last Saturday. Fiori hit three 3-pointers in the first quarter as the Raiders raced out to a 19-2 lead and never looked back.

(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)



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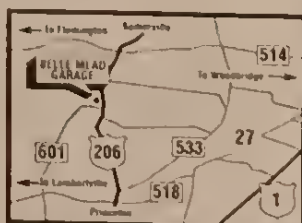


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PDS Boys' Hoops Showing Toughness But Needs to Get In-Synch Offensively

With less than a minute left last Thursday in its season opener, the Princeton Day School boys' basketball team enjoyed a 20-point lead against visiting George School.

While the Panthers had every reason to take the foot off the gas, PDS senior guard Joe Rogers wasn't about to let up.

Despite having tweaked his shoulder and thigh earlier in the game, Rogers dove to the floor to chase a loose ball in the waning seconds of the contest.

Rogers' effort was emblematic of the intensity displayed by the Panthers as they broke open a tight game to cruise to a 69-48 win over the Cougars.

Second-year PDS head coach Paris McLean liked the spirit his team showed from the opening tip of the season.

"I learned early on that even if our backs are against the wall, we can respond," said McLean.

"We may bend but I hope we don't break; there were times where fingers could have started pointing. They went on a little bit of a run but we bounced right back. I think that shows maturity from a basketball sense; maybe not age wise because we still have sophomore and junior guards."

This past weekend, the Panthers showed more toughness as they went through a growing experience at the prestigious Peddie School Invitational Tournament (PSIT), failing to host Peddie 77-53 in the first round and then dropping a 52-43 decision to Brunswick School (Conn.) a day later in a consolation contest.

For McLean, just being in the PSIT was a step forward for the PDS program. "It's just nice to be in the same tournament as some of those teams," said McLean, as he looked forward to the competition.

"We are one of the young-

er teams; we are definitely the smallest team. That's fine. I think we bring a lot to the table. I think it's going to be exciting for the PDS community."

McLean is counting on some exciting play this winter from Rogers, who scored 22 points in the win over George and passed the 1,000-point mark in his career which includes three seasons at Princeton High before he came to PDS in 2006.

"He's a strong-willed individual; he's more mature than in years past," said McLean of Rogers who scored 29 points in the loss to Peddie and then chipped in 15 in the defeat to Brunswick.

"He knows he is the elder statesman on the team; he leads by example now. He's a good role model for our younger guys. I even said that last year; even more so this year."

One of PDS' key younger

guys this winter figures to be sophomore point guard A.J. Rubin.

"He's a gym rat; he hit the AAU circuit this summer," said McLean, whose team fell 60-48 to Solomon Schechter last Monday to move to 1-3 on the season.

"He has a lot to prove; he has some big shoes to fill in Antoine [former point guard Antoine Hoppenot]. I think he more than proved himself today as not only a basketball player but also as a leader. He made smart decisions. Things are getting a little hectic and he slows it down, pulls it out. He hit a big 3-pointer for us at one point."

McLean is hoping that junior Kenny Holzhammer can be a smart player for PDS this winter.

"Since the start of the season, Kenny has been that sixth man," explained McLean.

"We have been really working for that defensive

purpose. Kenny knows he is an offensive weapon but he's a reflective young man and he said I've got to work on my defense. For this game and a couple other games we are going to go with Chris Bonnaig for the defensive look. When Kenny comes off the bench; we might get their sixth man against our starter."

In McLean's view, the Panthers need to play their trademark up-tempo style in order to start piling up the wins.

"Our natural game plan is to really try to get the ball up the floor and then fall in and get into our sets," said McLean, whose team hosts Pennington on December 17 before playing at Rutgers Prep a day later.

"We sort of got out of that in the second quarter. Once we got back to the basics and went to our philosophy, if you will, things were clicking. We started hitting our stride in the fourth quarter."

—Bill Alden



POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT: Princeton Day School boys' basketball head coach Paris McLean encourages his team in action last season. McLean has kept his positive approach, praising his team's toughness as it has started 1-3. In upcoming action, the Panthers host Pennington on December 17 before playing at Rutgers Prep a day later.

(Photo by Bill Alden/SportAlert)

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PDS Boys' Hockey Falls in Invitational But Gains Lessons for Challenges Ahead

Scott Bertoli had no illusions as his Princeton Day School boys' hockey team prepared to face Portledge School (N.Y.) last Sunday in the championship game of the 39th annual PDS Invitational.

"I knew what was coming when I watched them play Holy Ghost yesterday," said PDS head coach Bertoli of Portledge who topped Holy Ghost 6-1 in a first round game on Saturday.

"That's a good hockey team; they have three lines, five or six defensemen. They have a lot of Triple-A level club players and the scary thing is that it is a freshman-sophomore-junior team; I think they have two seniors."

Sure enough, the PDS players were on their heels early, giving up a goal in the first minute and finding themselves down 3-0 after the first period.

Things didn't get better for the Panthers as they gave up two goals in both the second and third periods on the way to a 7-0 defeat.

Bertoli acknowledged that the game was a painful learning experience for his players.

"I have a young group of kids; they are obviously inexperienced and a little undersized," said Bertoli, whose team had edged DeMatha Catholic (Md.) 4-3 on Saturday to advance to the championship game.

"At times they probably felt overwhelmed. The other team is physical, they skated and they kept the pressure on us."

While Bertoli had hoped for a tighter game, he likes putting his players under pressure.

"We have got a tough schedule and that's what we like to do here," said Bertoli, whose team dropped to 2-4 on the season with the loss to Portledge. "We want to get out and play the better opponents and try to expose these kids to that."

The Panthers won't be taking it easy this week as they were slated to host Malvern Prep on December 16 before playing at cross-town rival Hun a day later.

"We have Malvern; that is a very good program that is traditionally one of the best in Pennsylvania," said Bertoli.

"We then have a big rivalry game with Hun. Last year they gave us two really

good games. I don't know that they graduated anyone. They have a heckuva goaltender [senior Travis Potts]; that will be an exciting game. The kids will look forward to that; we'll play over there. The last time we were over there a couple of years ago, it was a fun environment."

It has been fun for Bertoli to watch the development of such young players as freshman forward Garret Jensen.

"Garret is a little buzzsaw; he is on the puck and he works hard," asserted Bertoli. "He creates opportunities; he's not as big and as strong as he needs to be to be a real attack player. He has the makings of being a good varsity player. He thinks the game better than most players out there."

PDS is getting some good games from its big three up front of Spencer Gabin, Skye Samse, and John Inman.

"Spencer and Skye definitely have been productive; they are counted on," added Bertoli. "They need to be. If not, you are throwing everything on John's shoulders and that's not fair."

Bertoli is counting on his team to improve from the experience of playing teams like Portledge.

"I think these kids need to play teams like this to beat a team like this," said Bertoli.

"We beat Bergen Catholic last year and that did wonders for us. We need to go out and play a hard game like we did in the third period against DeMatha. We played Mo-Beard tough here on Wednesday; it was a game that could have went either way. You can't make bad decisions; we had a breakdown that led to a 2 on 0 and then it's a two goal game with a minute left. We are close."

—Bill Alden

With Lescroart Providing Positive Leadership, PDS Girls' Hockey Takes 2nd at Invitational

Things didn't go well in the beginning or at the end as the Princeton Day School girls' ice hockey team played Rye Country Day School last Sunday in the championship game of its annual PDS Invitational Tournament.

Six minutes into the game, the Panthers found themselves trailing Rye 2-0.

With PDS goalie Bryanna Mayes coming up big, the Panthers held the fort through the middle of the game and were behind 2-0 heading into the third period.

The Panthers, though, were unable to produce a happy ending as they gave up a goal early in the third period. Later, they suffered a scare as junior defenseman Savannah Hecker skidded into the boards and collapsed in a heap, crying in agony. Hecker was taken off the ice on a back board and left the rink in an ambulance.

While concerned by Hecker's plight, the Panthers kept their heads, pressing forward and playing solid defense to keep the final margin at 3-0.

PDS co-captain Charlotte Lescroart was proud of how she and her teammates kept battling despite falling behind early.

"They scored two goals really quickly and then we held them off in the second period, no goals were scored" said defenseman Lescroart, who was named as the PDS recipient of the Christopher Reeve Sportsmanship Award for her efforts in the tournament.

"In the third, they got one really quick goal. I think we played them pretty well; I think we did give them our best shot. None of us are upset about what happened."

While the Panthers were upset by Hecker's injury,

they circled the wagons to make up for her absence.

"With Savannah out, it was a little upsetting," said Lescroart of Hecker, whose injury turned out to be less serious than it appeared as she was released from the hospital with a initial diagnosis of cramps and bruises.

"She is a really great defender, a really big help for us. But I think it only gave us a little more fire to keep playing harder."

After posting a 5-3 win over Lansdale Catholic on Saturday in the first round of the tournament, PDS was primed to give powerful Rye a battle.

"The team yesterday was not as strong as today," asserted Lescroart. "I think we really did show up today to play and we gave it our best shot. I think we played this team harder than we played the team yesterday. We tried our best."

In Lescroart's view, the team's best offensive hockey is yet to come.

"On offense, we are working on building a little more team chemistry and trusting each other," said Lescroart of the team's attack which was paced by two-goal efforts from senior Georgia Travers and freshman Megan Ofner in the win over Lansdale Catholic.

"I think it is just growing steps at the beginning of the season and that we will be

great by the end."

With PDS at 2-2, Lescroart thinks the Panthers can grow into something special.

"I am really pleased with the girls; we have had some really tough teams to play," said Lescroart, who will look to help PDS get back on the winning track when it hosts Pingry on December 18.

"We played Hill earlier and we played a great game against them (a 3-2 loss) so we know as the season continues we are going to be so much better. We are going to become a really competitive team."

The Panthers are already clicking off the ice as the team has bonded quickly. "I do feel a really great chemistry," said Lescroart, whose co-captains are Travers and Mayes.

"I think we have eight new girls on the team this year; they have fit right in. Everybody loves them. We have three freshmen on the team and they are all really strong players so we are really grateful to have them. We hang out a lot off the ice."

Lescroart, for her part, was grateful to win the Reeve award last weekend. "The award is pretty awesome," said Lescroart. "Last year, one of the really big hot shot players won it. I didn't think I had a shot so I appreciate it. I am really thankful I got it."

And PDS can be thankful to have a positive leader like Lescroart giving it her best shot.

—Bill Alden



CHARLOTTE'S WEB: Princeton Day School girls' hockey star Charlotte Lescroart clears the puck last Saturday in PDS's 5-3 win over Lansdale Catholic in the first round of the PDS Invitational Tournament. The Panthers fell 3-0 to Rye County Day on Sunday in the championship game to move to 2-2 on the season. Senior defenseman and co-captain Lescroart was named as the PDS recipient of the Christopher Reeve Sportsmanship Award for her efforts in the tournament. (Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

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Hun

Boys' Basketball: Jon Lee had a big game but it wasn't enough as Hun fell 69-66 to St. Benedict's last Saturday in the semifinals of the Peddie School Invitational Tournament. Post-



STURM FRONT: Princeton High girls' hockey senior star Maddy Sturm controls the puck last weekend during action at the Princeton Day School Invitational Tournament. The Little Tigers fell 7-5 to Rye Country Day on Saturday in an opening round game and then topped Lansdale Catholic 4-1 a day later in a consolation contest. In upcoming action, PHS plays at Up-land Country Day School on December 17 and at Summit High on December 21.

(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)



OPENING MOVE: Princeton High girls' basketball player Casey Moran races up the court in a game last season. The Little Tigers will be depending on senior star Moran to provide offense and leadership this winter as they look to improve on the 1-20 record they posted in 2007-08. The Little Tigers open their season by playing at Lawrence High on December 19.

(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)



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graduate guard Lee poured in 25 points while R.J. Griffin added 15 as the Ralders dropped to 2-4 on the season. In upcoming action, Hun will host Army Prep on December 17 before playing in the Tip-Off Classic on December 20.

Boys' Hockey: Jeff Starr and Brendan Gallagher each

notched goals as Hun tied Calvert Hall Academy 2-2 last Friday. Senior goalie Travis Potts recorded 35 saves as the Ralders moved to 2-2-1 on the season. Hun will host Princeton Day School on December 17 and Landon on December 19.

Lawrenceville

Boys' Basketball: Leonard Hayes had a big game but it wasn't enough as Lawrenceville fell 56-50 to Peddie last Saturday in semifinals of the Peddie School Invitational Tournament. Hayes scored 18 points while Matt Grogan added 10 as the Big Red moved to 4-1 on the season. Lawrenceville will compete in the Northfield Mount Hermon Tournament from December 19-21.

Boys' Hockey: Unable to get its offense going, Lawrenceville fell 5-0 to Hill last Sunday in the Albany Academy Tournament. In upcoming action, the Big Red, now 1-5, will be hosting the 61st annual Lawrenceville School Tournament from December 20-21.

PDS

Girls' Basketball: Janie Smukter had another double-figure game but it wasn't nearly enough as PDS fell 72-25 at Rutgers Prep last Saturday. Freshman star Smukler scored 10 points and Tiffany Patterson added nine as PDS dropped to 2-1 on the season. The Panthers play at Pennington School on December 17.

PHS

Boys' Hockey: Jeff Goeke and Michael Irving led the way as PHS topped Nottingham 8-2 last Monday. Goeke and Irving each scored two goals while Fraser Graham added a goal and three assists. The Little Tigers, now 2-3, play Hamilton on December 18 at Mercer County Park, host Montville on December 19 at Baker Rink, and then face Lawrence High on December 22 at Mercer County Park.

Boys' Swimming: Mike Kuhlik had a big day as PHS cruised past Steinert last Thursday. Freshman stand-out Kuhlik won both the 50 and 100 freestyle races to help the Little Tigers move to 3-1 on the season. In upcoming action, PHS has a meet at Lawrence High on December 18.

Girls' Swimming: Victoria Cassidy led the way as PHS edged Steinert 87-83 last Thursday. Junior star Cassidy won both the 400 individual medley and 100 butterfly as the Little Tigers moved to 3-1 on the season. PHS swims at Lawrence High on December 18.

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SURVIVING CHRISTMAS

By the Rev. Peter K. Stimpson



The Rev. Peter K. Stimpson

QUESTION: I hate Christmas. It's just pressure, pressure, pressure! I'm always exhausted when it's over, as if I've run through some sort of gauntlet. Am I weird? Is my complaint common? Can you help?

ANSWER: The pressure cooker in which you find yourself during the holiday season is strangely created by you! You have unwittingly given others the power to determine your worth, instead of calmly deciding what it is that you can and cannot do. You cannot please all the people all the time, no matter how much money you spend on gifts or how lavish a party you throw. So, pull the plug on the pressure by bravely deciding what you want to do vs. what you feel that you have to do.

Let's look at 4 areas of stress to make my point clear:

1. SHOPPING:

- Realize that there is no "perfect present", and that your goal is to demonstrate love, not to outdo previous years with oohs and ahs.
- Try not to overspend in an effort to overcompensate for too much quantity of time at work and too little quality time at home. Instead, reinvest yourself in your family.
- And, if you really want to go for the brass ring of marital maturity, be courteous to the discourteous, and try not to have a short temper while waiting in a long line.

2. FAMILY:

- Put the needs of your spouse and children before the pressures of family and friends. It's OK to tell your mother that you are celebrating Christmas in your own home, and to visit fewer relatives so as to do so out of love rather than duty.
- If you are short on money, then cut or eliminate your long list of people designated for Christmas cards, and consider giving one gift instead of many to your spouse and children.
- Therefore, a good rule of thumb to adopt is to consider doing less so as to enjoy the holidays more.

3. CHURCH: To take the stress out of Christmas, try putting Christ back into it. Instead of threatening your spouse and children with bodily harm if they do not accompany you to church, consider reminding them of the real meaning of Christmas. I am not talking about a stern and "boring" lecture that will turn everyone off, but rather a discussion about the meaning of love. How much God must love us to have allowed his Son to be born in a manger instead of a palace, wrapped in swaddling clothes instead of silk, living in a town so obscure that it is not even mentioned in the Old Testament, and then being willing to die for us on a cross. Therefore, we go to church not out of duty with a gun to our head, but out of love and a desire to rediscover the meaning of our lives.

4. TV SPECIALS: If you came from an abusive family, or if your parents or spouse have died, or if you have been through a divorce, the endless onslaught of maudlin TV specials, depicting happy "normal" families might make you think that your family is anything but normal. And yet, what we are shown is an ideal towards which we all strive, the attainment of which is never fully within our grasp. We should not be discouraged by this image, just patient and persistent in our journey towards it.

This Wellness column is funded through the generosity of a grant from the J. Seward Johnson, Sr. Charitable Trusts. If you would like Father Stimpson to answer a question of yours on family life, daily living or emotional health, you can write to him at: Trinity Counseling Service, 22 Stockton Street, Princeton, NJ 08540. Trinity Counseling Service provides clinical or pastoral counseling on a sliding fee scale for all who need help and support. Phone Trinity Counseling Service at 609-924-0060 to set an appointment.

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Local Sports

New Rugby Club Seeking Teen Players

The Princeton Athletic Club (PAC), a South Brunswick-area USA Rugby club, is seeking teenage boys, ages 15-19, who are interested in learning to play competitive rugby. No experience is necessary.

The high school team will practice at the Crossroads Middle School in Monmouth Junction where the club's men's team is based. PAC is actively recruiting high school players from North Brunswick, South Brunswick, Princeton, and surrounding towns to participate in the program's inaugural season in spring 2009.

The high school team will play against other sides in the New York/New Jersey area under the auspices of USA Rugby. The team is not sponsored by an individual community and there are no residency restrictions.

For more information on the sport and the club, log on to www.brunswickrugby.com. Specific information about the new team can be obtained by contacting Rich Beck at rbeck1120@hotmail.com.

Dillon Youth Basketball December 12 Results

In action last Friday in the 4th/5th grade boys' division of the Dillon Youth Basketball League, Brian Gurski scored 15 points to pace the Mavericks to a 30-25 win over the Warriors. Andre Cole and Kevin Kanter added six points in the win while Michael Dowers had 16 points in a losing cause for the Warriors.

In other action, Sam Serxner scored seven points for the Suns in a 25-15 win over the Trailblazers. Harry Dyeovich had eight points for the Trailblazers. Joey Studholme scored seven points and Cristobal Silva added

six as the Kings topped the Rockets 30-10. Cole Snyder had six points for the Rockets. Luis Lazo scored 12 points to lead the Spurs to a 20-13 win over the Clippers. Joshua Malik had six points in the loss. The Lakers topped the Jazz 29-17 as Peter Reid scored eight points and Teddy Martilla added seven. Owen Lindelfelder led the Lakers with 11 points.

The boys' 6th/7th grade division saw Mike Clancy score seven points and Robert Mooney add six as West Virginia topped St. John's 21-17. William McGuirk led St. John's with eight points. Thomas Walker scored eight points and Christopher Sorden added seven to lead Georgetown to a 26-18 win over Villanova. Jack Dyeovich scored eight points and Shawn Duffy added six for Villanova.

In other action, Rutgers topped Connecticut 26-12, as Brock DeHaven scored seven points and Alex Deutsch added six. Brandon Yao scored six points to lead Notre Dame in a 20-17 win over Syracuse. Shihan Yu had seven points in the loss. Sam Smallzman scored 10 points to lead Pittsburgh to a 21-10 win over Seton Hall.

In the boys' 8th/9th grade division, Jordan Lerner scored 10 points for Corner House in a 17-10 win over Princeton Pettoranello. Michael Treves had six in the losing effort. Vince Baldino and Brothers edged Conte's 22-21 as Lior Levy scored seven points and Marshall Borden scored six points. Oren Karsen hit two clutch free throws for Baldino with five seconds left on the clock while Levy blocked a key shot at the very end of the game to seal the win. Jay Berry scored eight for Conte's and Scott Belcher had seven.

The division also saw Sotto top Woodwinds 29-19 as Dallas Mosner scored a game-high 12 for Sotto and Elliot Golden added six. Peter Schulman had nine points in the loss. Vinny Ossorio hit a half-court shot as the first half expired and finished with six points for Woodwinds. Chris Ciccodicola scored eight points and Andres Velez scored seven as Princeton Borough PBA topped PGC, 33-21. Edward Percarpio and Ben Smallzman each had six for PGC.

In games in the 4th/5th grade girls' division, Claire Kister scored eight points and Angela Glazer added four as JM Group topped Princeton Shopping Center 14-2. Trisha Reilly had two points in the loss. Senior Tennis Program topped Mason, Griffin and Pierson 24-7, as Zoe Tesone scored 14 points and Carolina Soto added six. Hsinwei Yu, Avery Peterson, and Rowen Light-Wills scored two points

apiece for MGP.

The 6th-9th grade girls' division saw Kate Kerr score 20 points to lead GR Murray to a 25-24 win over McCaffrey's. Louise Eisenach scored eight points while Madison Cahill-Sardinas added six in the loss. Julia Depp scored 12 points and Madison Luther added eight as Princeton Township PBA #387 topped Mack-Cali 28-15. Lucy Guan had nine points in the loss.

Princeton Travel Hoops Recent Results

The Princeton Recreation Under-14 boys' travel basketball team dropped a hard-fought, 45-44 decision to New Egypt on Saturday in North Brunswick League action. Peter Schulman led the team with 12 points, sinking 4 three-pointers. Lior Levy added eight points in the loss. Princeton is now 1-1 in league play.

Princeton' U-12 boys split their two games over the weekend. Princeton opened the weekend by falling to Clark 56-53. Chase Ta had 20 points and Will Harrison had 14 to pace Princeton. Later, Princeton routed Perth Amboy 42-8. Kevin Kane had 10 points and Will Harrison had 7 to lead the way in the victory.

The U-13 girls' team topped Pennsbury 35-14 to go to 2-0 in Central Jersey League action. Leah Moran came up big for Princeton, scoring 14 points and grabbing seven rebounds. Elizabeth Jacobs and Coco Doll had strong games inside as they pulled down 13 and 11 rebounds, respectively. Ellie Boulding grabbed eight rebounds for Princeton while Arielle Thomas scored 6 points and had 4 rebounds.

NJ Lacrosse Group Holding Ref Classes

The New Jersey Interscholastic Lacrosse Officials Association will be holding cadet training classes for individuals interested in officiating high school boys' lacrosse.

Playing experience is not necessary but individuals must be at least 18 years old. Classes will be held throughout the state beginning in January.

To register or for more information, visit the association's website at www.njiloo.org.

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THANK YOU: For the fourth consecutive year, the Rotary Club of Princeton has donated gift bags of personal care products to the Princeton Department of Human Services for distribution to its Princeton area clients. The charitable effort is part of the Rotary Club's Care to Share project that benefits needy families in Mercer County. The gift bags presented last week were given by Rotary member Marcia Bossart, left, to Cynthia Mendez, Executive Director of Princeton Human Services.



WE WON! Princeton Day School (PDS) first-grade chess team members (from left): Christopher Delaney and Clay Hancock, both of Princeton, Christopher Crane and Tommy Bocian, both of Lawrenceville, recently celebrated winning first place in the New Jersey K-12 Grade Chess Championship. PDS chess players from kindergarten through eighth grade competed, winning both team trophies and individual honors.

Celebrate Christmas at ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

December 21st

10:00 am Fourth Sunday of Advent with Holy Eucharist

Adult & Youth Choirs, Willcocks *Gabriel's Message*, Las Huelgas manuscript *Verbum bonum*

11:30 am *The Birth Narratives of Jesus in Matthew and Luke*

led by The Rev. Dr. Karl Morrison, Prof. of Medieval History, Rutgers University

Christmas Eve

4:00 pm Christmas Carols and Live Animals!

The Christmas story from the scriptures

Youth Choir: Reger *The Virgin's Slumber Song*

Hendrie *As I Outrode this Enderes Night*

9:00 pm Festival Eucharist

Prelude begins 8:30 pm

Christmas carols and candlelight

Poetry, Adult Choir, organ and harpist

Sametz *Del Nacimiento*, Thompson *Glory to God in the Highest*,

Holmes *The Shepherd and the King*, Bach *O Little One Sweet*

Christmas Day

10:00 am Holy Eucharist with Carols

December 28th

First Sunday after Christmas

Christmas Carol sing. Request your favorites!

Good King Wenceslas, solos by Olga Kronenberg

ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

16 All Saints' Road, Princeton, NJ

(N. of the Princeton Shopping Center off Terhune/VanDyke Rd.)

609-921-2420  www.allsaint.org

Clubs

The **Princeton Chapter No. 459 of AARP** will meet this Friday, December 19 at 1:30 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the Kingston Presbyterian Church, 4565 Main Street, Kingston. Entertainment will be provided by Around Eight, a co-ed cappella group at Princeton High School. The ensemble's repertoire ranges from Bulgarian folk songs to the Beach Boys.

The public is welcome. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call Larry Haas at (732) 297-1656.

The **Princeton Senior Resource Center** will present a program on Medicare Part D and Medication Concerns at the Suzanne Patterson Building this Friday, December 19 at noon. Attendees are invited to bring their own lunch.

Sam Procaccini, head pharmacist at CVS on Nassau Street, will be the speaker.

Medicare Part D open enrollment extends from November 15 to December 31, during which time enrollees may change their prescription drug plans. It is important for enrollees to review their plans and utilization because almost all plans will change in 2009.

For more information, call PSRC at (609) 924-7108.

Terra Momo Owners Honored by NJRA

The New Jersey Restaurant Association (NJRA) recently named Carlo and Raoul Momo, co-owners of the Terra Momo Restaurant Group, winners of the 2008 Gold Plate Award.

The award is given, according to the NJRA, "to individuals who have made exceptional achievements in the restaurant industry and notable contributions to New Jersey communities." Each year, the membership of the NJRA nominates candidates for the Gold Plate Award, and the final winner is then chosen by a group of previous award recipients.

"Carlo and Raoul Momo are especially deserving of the Gold Plate award for their great business acumen and success in building restaurants throughout central New Jersey, as well as their

commitment to buying local before it was popular," said NJRA President Deborah Dowdell. "Moreover, the Momo brothers truly demonstrate active membership within the NJRA, donating to our causes and leaving long-standing imprints on our organization through gestures both large and small. We are happy to be able to recognize their work with this honor."

Brothers Carlo and Raoul Momo, founders of Terra Momo Restaurant Group, began their careers as restaurateurs over 20 years ago and have since created a number of venues in central New Jersey. In Princeton, their properties include Teresa Caffe, Mediterra, and the Witherspoon Bread Company. Wine bar and restaurant Eno Terra, located in Kingston, is the latest addition to the Terra Momo family.



AWARD WINNERS: Carlo (left) and Raoul Momo recently received the New Jersey Restaurant Association's Gold Plate Award acknowledging business achievements and community service.



WHO'S WHO: (From left): Princeton Education Foundation President Holly Holcombe, Princeton Regional Schools Superintendent Judith Wilson, Board of Education member Dorothy Bedford, John Witherspoon Middle School Principal William Johnson, and Chair of the 150+ Event Committee Lisa Paine, have begun identifying people, places, and events in Princeton public school photos dating from the 1880s. An exhibit of the photos, commemorating the district's 150th anniversary, will officially open on Wednesday, March 18, at Princeton High School's Numina Gallery. In the meantime, the public is invited to come to Numina on Wednesday, January 14, from 2 to 6 p.m., to help with the identifying process.

(Photo courtesy PEF)

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Obituaries

Frank W. Daniels

Frank W. Daniels, 74, of Princeton Junction, died December 13 at the University Medical Center at Princeton after a long illness.

Born in Wilkes Barre, Pa., he had been a resident of Princeton Junction for the past 35 years.

He was honorably discharged as a Sergeant from the U.S. Marine Corps.

He retired in 1991 as the Chief Financial Officer of Instinet Corp. in New York City. Prior to that, he was the Chief Financial Officer for Mathematica Policy Research in Princeton Junction.

Mr. Daniels was an avid New York Giants fan who enjoyed picking fantasy baseball and basketball teams. Above all else he loved spending time with his grandchildren.

Predeceased by his parents, Stanley and Gertrude

Daniels, he is survived by his wife of 50 years, Marie T. Daniels; two sons, Frank of Union City and Tim of New Hope, Pa.; two daughters, Mary Ann Springer of Crosswicks, N.J. and Karyn Daniels of Pennington; two brothers, Billy Daniels and Ronald Daniels; two sisters, Lorraine Lucas and Judy Golembeski; and four grandchildren.

The funeral service will be tomorrow, December 18 at 10:30 a.m. at the Kimble Funeral Home, 1 Hamilton Avenue. It will be followed at 11 a.m. by a funeral mass at St. Paul's Catholic Church, 214 Nassau Street. Burial will be in Princeton Cemetery.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the visitation on Wednesday evening, December 17 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to Princeton Health Care Systems Foundation, 253 Witherspoon Street, Princeton 08540, attn. Coronary Care Unit; or to Eden Institute, 1 Eden Way, Princeton 08540.

Thordis Marck-Blend

Thordis (Teddi) Marck-Blend, 89, of Bradenton, Fla., formerly of Princeton, died October 30 in Bradenton.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, she moved from Princeton to Bradenton in 1993.

She worked as an administrator in the Financial Aid Office at Princeton University, retiring after 24 years of service.

She was a member of the Princeton United Methodist Church for more than 50 years.

She was a guiding light of faith, strength, wisdom, and love to her family and those who knew her, and will be remembered for the dance in her step, the hymns in her heart, and her jokes for every occasion.

Predeceased by husbands John Marck, William Marciniak and Martin Reef, she is survived by husband Robert Blend of Bradenton; a son, Jack Marck of Acton, Mass.; two daughters, Lynne McDonough of Bradenton and Sally Marck-McEwan of Orlando, Fla.; a stepdaugh-

ter, Marilynn Carstensen; seven grandchildren; two stepgrandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held this Saturday, December 20 at 1 p.m. at the Princeton United Methodist Church, 7 Vandeventer Street. Following the ceremony, burial will take place in a plot next to that of Mrs. Marck-Blend's first husband, John Marck, at Griggstown Cemetery, Canal Road, Griggstown.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The National Kidney Foundation, 30 East 33rd Street, New York, N.Y. 10016; or to TideWell Hospice and Palliative Care, 5955 Rand Boulevard, Sarasota, Fla. 34238.

Freda T. Smith

Freda T. Smith, 81, of Princeton, died December 16 at Robert Wood Johnson Hospital in Rahway.

Born in Princeton, she was a lifelong resident who attended Witherspoon Elementary School and graduated from Princeton High School.

She worked for a private family in New York City, returning to Princeton in 1954 to care for her family after the death of her mother. She became a full-time volunteer organizer with Eastern Service Workers Association in Trenton in 1978.

She was predeceased by her parents, Thomas F. Smith and Mary E. Smith of Princeton; and two sisters, Geraldine E. Washington of

Princeton and Mary Jane McNeil of Piscataway. She is survived by three brothers, Thomas F. Smith Jr. and David M. Smith, both of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and John P. Smith Sr. of Trenton; a special sister, Maj. Brit Smith of Newtown, Pa.; and a special friend, Irene Cade of Trenton.

A viewing will be held at The Mather-Hodge Funeral Home this Sunday, December 21 from 1 to 4 p.m. The funeral service will be at Princeton United Methodist Church on Monday, December 22. For the time of the service, call (609) 695-9562.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Eastern Service Workers Association, 6 West End Avenue, Trenton.

The Princeton University Chapel

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Sunday ~ December 21st
at 11:00 AM

The Rev. Paul B. Raushenbush

Associate Dean of Religious Life and the Chapel
Sermon: "Carrying Christ to Christmas"



*Please join us throughout the Christmas Season...
and beyond!*

Christmas Eve, December 24

12:00 Noon Holy Eucharist with carols

4:00 pm Holy Eucharist for children of all ages

8:00 pm Festival Eucharist with Combined Choirs, Brass & Timpani

11:00 pm Festival Eucharist with Combined Choirs and Choir Alumni, Brass & Timpani

Please Note: The 8:00 p.m. and 11:00pm services are preceded by a half-hour of Christmas music for brass and organ.

Christmas Day, December 25

10:00 am Holy Eucharist with Carols

The First Sunday after Christmas, December 28

8:00 & 9:00 am Holy Eucharist at Trinity Church

11:00 am Service of Nine Lessons and Carols with the Choirs of Trinity Church with brass and timpani in Princeton University Chapel

There is no 11:15 service at Trinity

You are very welcome here every Sunday of the year!

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I Traditional language spoken service

9:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II Contemporary language with choir

11:15 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II Contemporary language Choral Eucharist

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The Rev. Anne Marie Richards, Associate Rector

At the
Princeton University
Chapel

**CHRISTMAS EVE
SERVICE**

Wednesday, December 24th at 8:00 PM
The Rev. Dr. Alison L. Boden
Dean of Religious Life and the Chapel

**CHRISTMAS DAY
SERVICE**

Thursday, December 25th at 11:00 AM
The Rev. Deborah K. Blanks
Associate Dean of Religious Life and the Chapel

Religion

Hazzan (Cantor) Murray E. Simon, cantor at the **Jewish Center of Princeton**, was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Music degree at The Jewish Theological Seminary's Convocation honoring members of the Cantors Assembly on December 9 in New York City.

A total of 31 cantors who have served the Jewish community with distinction in Canada, Israel, and the U.S. received honorary doctorates at the gala event.

The Cantors Assembly is the largest organization of cantors worldwide. The official placement agency for cantors in the Conservative Movement, it sets and maintains the highest standards of professional competence and ethics.

Professor Arnold Eisen, Chancellor of JTS, and Dr. Alan Cooper, provost, conferred the honorary degrees and delivered the convocation address. Hazzan Henry Rosenblum, Dean of the

H.L. Miller Cantorial School and College of Jewish Music, served as sponsor of the honorary degree candidates.

Candidate from St. Paul's Named Ecclesial Minister

Josue Arriola of St. Paul Parish, Princeton, was one of 12 candidates from Mercer, Burlington, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties who recently completed the requirements of the Trenton Diocese's Institute for Lay Ecclesial Ministry.

Bishop John M. Smith of the Diocese of Trenton commissioned the 12 lay ecclesial ministers — 11 women and one man — December 14 in St. Mary Cathedral, Trenton.

The Institute for Lay Ecclesial Ministry is a rigorous three-year program of education, spiritual formation, pastoral skills development, and practical experience. The commissioning qualifies the candidates for professional positions of leadership in the Church.

The other successful candidates were Madelyn Tusay of St. James Parish, Pen-

nington; Susan Commini of St. Gregory the Great Parish, Hamilton Square; Lynette De Tata of Holy Eucharist Parish, Tabernacle; Kathleen Egan-Bittner of St. Joseph Parish, Toms River; Karen Fitzgerald of St. James Parish, Red Bank; Helen Ann Graziano of St. John Neumann Parish, Mount Laurel; Laura Madlyn Harrison of St. James Parish, Red Bank; Theresa Kelly of St. Mary of the Lake Parish, Lakewood; Linda C. Lane of Our Lady of Sorrows-St. Anthony Parish, Mercerville; Lillian Maldonado-Cilento of St. Justin Parish, Toms River; and Anne E. Matthews of St. Martha Parish, Point Pleasant.

Eight of the 12 candidates have completed or are close to completing their master's degree in theology from either Georgian Court University, Lakewood, or LaSalle University, Philadelphia. The others have completed pastoral certificate programs from Georgian Court University. Some already hold full-time positions in Church ministry, others are employed outside the Church but exercise their ministry on a volunteer basis.

The Jewish Family & Children's Service of Greater Mercer County will offer four Aging In Place Programs in January.

A five-part free series titled "Don't Put Your Life on Hold: Strategies and Tips to Help You Live Your Life While Supporting Your Loved One with Dementia" will begin on Wednesday, January 7 at 6:30 p.m. at Bear Creek Assisted Living, 291 Village Road East, West Windsor. To enroll, call Dottie Szczech at (609) 987-8100.

"The Benefits of Laughter," led by Pam Jones, RN, an Integrative Therapy Nurse at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in Hamilton, will be presented on Thursday, January 8 at 10:30 a.m., also at Bear Creek Assisted Living. To register, call Linda Meyer at (609) 987-8100.

"Handy Devices for Easier Living: Make Life Simpler Through Assistive Technology" will be the title of a free program on Thursday, January 15 at 10:30 a.m. at Meadow Lakes Community, 300 Meadow Lakes, East Windsor. The speaker, Curtis Edmonds of NJ Protection &

Advocacy, Inc., will discuss assistive technology devices such as voice-activated light controls and "TouchTronic" lamp converters.

And on Tuesday, January 20, Tom Petrino, an appraiser for the State of New Jersey Department of Treasury, will present "Antiques Roadshow" from 2 to 3 p.m. at Monroe Village, One Brainerd Drive, Monroe Township. Mr. Petrino will examine collectibles, jewelry, watches, pottery, porcelain, and artwork, and give participants a verbal appraisal of their value.

For reservations, call Linda Meyer, Coordinator of Aging in Place Programs at (609) 987-8100.

The Jewish Reconstructionist congregation of Princeton, String of Pearls, will hold an Erev Shabbat Service on Friday, January 9 at 8 p.m. and Saturday, January 24 at 10 a.m. Community members are welcome.

Rabbi Donna Kirshbaum will lead the services at The Unitarian Universalist Congregation Building, 50 Cherry Hill Road. For more information about String of Pearls, visit www.stringofpearlsweb.org or call (609) 430-0025.

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December 21

Service of Lessons & Carols • 7:30 pm

December 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service • 7 pm

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Please Note: The 8pm and 11pm services are preceded by a half-hour of Christmas music for brass & organ

Christmas Day, December 25: 10am Holy Eucharist with Carols

The First Sunday after Christmas, December 28: 8 & 9am Holy Eucharist at Trinity Church 11am Service of Nine Lessons and Carols with the Choirs of Trinity Church with brass and timpani in Princeton University Chapel (incense) There is no 11:15 service at Trinity

The Rev. Paul Jeanes III, Rector • The Rev. Anne Marie Richards

33 Mercer Street, Princeton, NJ 08540

924-2277 • www.trinityprinceton.org

St. Paul's Catholic Church

214 Nassau Street, Princeton • Msgr. Walter Nolan, Pastor

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Wednesday, Dec. 17 7:30-8:30pm. (also in Spanish) Saturday, Dec. 20 4:00-5:00 p.m.

LIVE CRECHE - Dec. 19-29

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Wednesday, Dec. 24 Children's Mass with Children's Choir in Church at 4:00pm

Vigil Mass at 4:00pm in the School Gym • Vigil Mass in Church at 6:00pm

Spanish Mass at 8:30pm • Christmas Carol Concert at 11:30pm • Christmas Midnight Mass at 12:00am

Thursday, Dec. 25 Masses at 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, and 11:30am NO EVENING MASSES

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www.westerlyroad.org

Sunday Worship:

9:30am

11:00 am

Sunday School

for all ages:

9:30 am

December 14 5pm Service of Lessons and Carols

December 21 9:30am & 11am Worship

December 24 6pm Family Candlelight Service

December 24 11pm Candlelight Service with Communion

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Christmas Day Service 12/25 @ 10:30 am

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609-252-0310

www.mogoca.org

Wednesday, Dec. 24 5:30pm Christmas Carols 6:00pm Matins

Thursday, Dec. 25 9:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday, 9:15am Church School

Sunday, 10:00am Divine Liturgy • Saturday, 6:00pm: Vespers

Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church

124 Witherspoon Street, Princeton, NJ

Reverend M. Muriel Burrows, Pastor

Saturday, Dec. 13 - 7 pm Christmas at Witherspoon (musical program)

Sunday, Dec. 21 - 10 am A Service of Lessons and Carols

Wednesday, Dec. 24 - 7 pm Christmas Eve Service

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Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

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Youth Fellowship: Thurs 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Bible Study

Wed. 7-8 p.m. & Thurs. 12-1p.m.

Office: 609-924-0877

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4565 Route 27, Kingston

— 2008 Christmas Programs —

Sunday, Dec. 21 at 4:30 pm Longest Night Service

Christmas Eve, Wednesday, Dec. 24

7 pm • Family Candlelight Service

10 pm • Lessons & Carols

No Christmas Day Service

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www.kingstonpresbyterian.org

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Christmas Eve Family Service

Dec 24 at 7:00 pm

Christmas Eve Contemplative Service

Dec 24 at 9:00 pm

Kwanzaa Intergenerational Service, Sunday

Dec 28 at 10:00 am

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Jana Purkin-Brash, Senior Pastor

Tom Lank, Assistant Pastor

Sunday Advent Series

Dec 21 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:30 & 11 Regular Sunday Worship

7:30 pm Chancel & Handbell Choir Concert

Dec 24 - Christmas Eve

6:00pm Family Candlelight Service

8:00pm Candlelight Service

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Father Paul Rnuassa, Vicar

December 7, 5:00 pm - Christmas Concert

December 24, 4:00 pm - Children's Liturgy 9:00 pm - Eucharist and Choir

December 25, 9:00 am - Eucharist and Music



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8:30PM Christmas Eve Prelude, 9:00PM Festival Eucharist
CHRISTMAS DAY 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist with Carols

Sunday Worship

Holy Eucharist 8 & 10AM*, Sunday School 9:45 AM

*Childcare provided

Weekday Worship

Holy Eucharist Wednesday 9:30 AM

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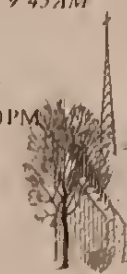
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Fellowship at 11 a.m.

Education Hour at 11:15 a.m.

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61 Nassau Street • Princeton • 924-0103

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www.nassauchurch.org

Christmas Eve

3:00 p.m. Christmas Pageant

7:30 p.m. Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service

David A. Davis preaching at both services

Sunday, Dec. 28

10:00 a.m. One Service of Lessons & Carols

David A. Davis, Pastor

Lauren J. McFeaters, Associate Pastor

Elizabeth Schultz, Associate Pastor

Matt Schultz, Associate Pastor

Joyce MacKichan Walker, Minister of Education

Noel D. Weiner, Director of Music

Sue Ellen Page, Director of Choirs for Children & Youth

"One generation shall praise your works to another..." Psalm 145:4

924-0103

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• MONTGOMERY	96	94	n/a
• WEST WINDSOR	94	94	95
• LAWRENCEVILLE	95	95	86
• HOPEWELL	85	94	n/a

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45 • TOWN TOPICS, PRINCETON, N.J., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2008



One of the most popular townhouse communities in Princeton, Governors Lane, offers case of living and a dynamite location. Be minutes from the University, shopping and schools. Be just a hop, skip and jump from the Garden Theater, Bainbridge House and McCarter. The library is at your fingertips! Enjoy all of this in your four bedroom townhouse with two fireplaces, eat-in kitchen, and open living room and dining room. Finished basement, two car garage and lots of storage space add to its appeal. You must see this very special house which, by the way, has a spectacular kitchen complete with custom tile work and upgrades.



\$749,000



This house MUST BE SEEN to be believed! Located in the Littlebrook section of Princeton Township, it is close to the elementary school, down the street from the bus to New York, AND near Lake Carnegie, where you can watch a regatta, (did you know that Lake Carnegie was the site of the Olympic crew pre-trials?) go kayaking, and even ice skate. What a treat! And get this — there are mellow oak floors, an incredible chef's kitchen and a fireplace in the formal living room. The master bedroom addition has high ceiling, plenty of windows and a giant closet/dressing room. Third floor bonus room provides a great getaway for everyone; the list goes on, including baths, bedrooms, family room and finished basement. Also for rent!!



\$749,000



Check this out! A four bedroom house with both a family room and a study on the main level, and built on a gorgeous lot in West Windsor! Here is an opportunity to have the luxury of options — you can walk to the train (or not)! You can walk to school (or not)! You can walk to shopping (or not)! Unbelievable!! Glowing oak floors provide warmth and charm, and the gardens and trees are to die for! Eat-in kitchen has cute breakfast nook, and finished basement provides the perfect place for rainy day activities. Established neighborhood in ideal location.



\$595,000



Want to feel like you're on vacation every single day? It's easy when you live in this exciting "ski chalet" in East Amwell with a Hopewell address. Situated on over four acres, this property offers marvelous space — vaulted ceilings, skylights, updated kitchen and large basement. Double sided fireplace can be enjoyed from many rooms; the living room, dining room and the gigantic family room as well. From the family room, you can view the beautiful woods and fields, since this room has windows on three sides! A study, which might be used as a bedroom, is on the main level and adjacent to a bath. Two additional bedrooms and two full baths on second floor. With its two car garage and country location, this is one terrific house, and just minutes from the cute Boro of Hopewell and the Off-Broad Street Theatre, Brothers Moon Restaurant and funky antique shops.



\$459,000



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So many attributes set this Princeton townhouse apart. A sun-splashed interior, a wooded view, soaring family room and the opportunity to expand the living space into the already partially finished basement. Existing plans for the two-zone space give the project a head start. On the main level, the floor plan is open with many rich details, such as an accent pillar and knee wall between the living and dining rooms and tall arched windows flanking a travertine-edged gas fireplace within the family room. Sliders in the cheerful kitchen open to the deck backed by a grove of evergreens. A powder room completes the main level. The second story holds two bedrooms, a generous hall bath, the laundry and the large vaulted master suite. A Jacuzzi tub makes the master bath a haven for relaxation. Within a peaceful cul-de-sac next to Hilltop Park, this is an amazing value for anyone seeking easy access to in-town amenities and Princeton University.

\$475,000

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PRINCETON — Lovely corner lot. Custom designed and quality built home. Very attractive interior design with great flow and light exposure. The house is under construction. Floor plans available upon request.

Marketed by Violetta Adamidou

\$2,300,000



PRINCETON — The timeless elegance of this gracious colonial is enhanced by the superb location in the rural edge of the Western Section of Princeton Township, offering privacy and convenience, moments from downtown.

Marketed by Eleanor "Peggy" Hughes-Fulmer & Roberta Canfield

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PRINCETON — A rare opportunity to own a piece of history. Circa 1820—over 3,000 sqft of living space. 6 bedroom, 5.5 bath colonial with original carved woodwork and hardwood floors. Separate apartment for in-law suite or could be rented out.

Marketed by Charles Aner

\$999,999



PRINCETON JUNCTION — Nestled on a wooded lot, this 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home in Birchwood Estates boasts thoughtful additions and updates. Breakfast room addition with skylights and walls of windows opens to a large deck and private fenced yard.

Marketed by Diane Urbanek

\$720,000



PRINCETON — A Tudor GEM—old world charm meets 21st century features & creature comforts. On 2+ acres under a canopy of hardwood sits this fabulous home. Exquisite architectural details add to the ambiance.

Marketed by Alison Covelio

\$599,000



PRINCETON — Largest end unit model in Washington Oaks in a great location, set back from the road with a private patio and garden. Formal living room and dining room, eat-in kitchen and family room with fireplace. 3 bedrooms plus sitting room which shares a fireplace with master bedroom. Full basement, 2-car garage.

Marketed by Flora Marie "FM" Comizzoli

\$569,900



MONTGOMERY — 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath center hall colonial with slate foyer to spacious formal living room with fireplace. Kitchen with new stainless steel appliances, new wood floor. 1.03 acres. Park-like yard with fabulous patio.

Marketed by Laura Winroth

\$564,900



LAWRENCEVILLE — Spacious 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath colonial with unique floor plan in "Ridings at Lawrenceville." This home has great flow with kitchen opening to family room and screened-in porch. Newer Pergo and wood floors, updated countertops, gas fireplace.

Marketed Laura Winroth

\$500,000



EAST AMWELL — Located on non-thru traffic street, this 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath colonial offers exercise/game room on 2nd floor; cathedral ceiling in great room with skylights that open to Florida room with hot tub that opens to deck.

Marketed by Robert Fass

\$479,000



MONTGOMERY — Charming 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home situated on beautiful lot next to historic bridge. New septic 2007, custom built-ins and many updates are featured in this well cared for home.

Marketed by Tracy Van Syckel

\$465,000



MONTGOMERY — Handy? This home needs some TLC & is situated on a quiet street close to a subdivision of homes. This home has 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, recreation room, living room, dining room, kitchen and porch. New septic 2006. Home being sold "as is."

Marketed by Kathleen Guissi

\$399,999



MONMOUTH JUNCTION — NEW CONSTRUCTION! The Pointe at Turnbury has it all: great prices, great location, great floor plans, great amenities, 7 models to choose from.

Marketed by Linda Schwarz

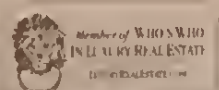
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HOMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Many people hesitate to place their home on the market during the holiday season, thinking prospective buyers are too busy with holiday activities to bother with looking at homes they might purchase. However, historical data shows the holiday period to be a very good time to find a buyer.

People often have more time available during the holidays to inspect homes and make a purchase. Also, with a certain number of owners holding off with listing their homes for sale until after the holidays, the competition with other similar properties on the market is minimal. Considering all factors, the holiday period is a particularly strategic time to offer a home for sale. During this time, prospective buyers tend to be more serious in finding and purchasing a home.

From a buyer's perspective, this is a great time to seek out a home. There is more free time to research the market and inspect selected homes. It is a particularly good time for a family to discuss what they are looking for in their new home and actively pursue their plans.

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Marketed by Heidi A. Hartmann



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Holiday Sights, Sounds, and Scents Signal Start of This Special Season

What are your favorite things to do during the holidays? Trimming the tree? Looking at a tree trimmed by someone else? Joining friends for caroling? Attending the "Nutcracker" or "A Christmas Carol" at McCarter? Visiting friends and family? Watching the kids open presents? Volunteering at a soup kitchen or spending time with an older neighbor who is alone?

Everyone has different memories, traditions, and special ways of enjoying the season. For you, it may be listening to the unique Christmas music (sacred and secular) — from *Messiah* to *Silent Night* to *White Christmas* to *Frosty the Snowman*.

Others look forward to the special holiday movies: *Miracle on 34th Street* and *It's A Wonderful Life*, or to annual Christmas Eve traditions of reading *A Christmas Carol*, *The Night Before Christmas* or *Is There A Santa Claus?* ("Yes, Virginia...") aloud by the fireside.

Some people savor the holiday atmosphere, including the store and residential decorations, the lights on the tree at Palmer Square, last minute shoppers, with overflowing bags and boxes, hurrying along the sidewalks, Salvation Army Santas ringing bells on street corners, Christmas trees atop cars on their way to a tree-trimming party — all sights and sounds of the season.

Princeton, especially, has

so much to offer during the holidays. Beautiful music from the American Boy-Choir, Princeton Symphony Orchestra, Westminster Choir College, Princeton Pro Musica, and at the various Lessons and Carols and church services as Christmas approaches. For those who enjoy taking part, the annual Christmas Eve Caroling will begin at the Green on Palmer Square at 5:15 p.m. on December 24th.

Princeton indeed is a special place. First of all, it is a real town with a main street as well as a "village" shopping center, with lots of independent shops, stores, and restaurants, whose owners go out of their way to offer quality products and service, and splendid holiday decorations for their customers.

Special Tour

Taking a walk around town, including Palmer Square and the Shopping Center, is a favorite holiday activity of one long-time Princeton resident. "I take my own special tour, and I really look forward to it. I especially like to do this on a frosty day," she says, with a smile. "I walk all the way around Palmer Square, starting from the kiosk on Nassau Street. I go past the Banana Republic and Teresa's Caffe, and maybe, if it's really cold, stop in at the Halo Pub for a hot chocolate. I like to look in at Kitchen Kapers to see what is missing in my own kitchen, and then I continue.

"I'll walk past Mediterra and turn up the other side of the square. I like to look at the windows of The Silver Shop; I also might take a slight detour and stop in at the Nassau Inn to see their decorations and warm myself by the wonderful king-size fireplace. Then, it's on to Thomas Sweet, where I'll get some fudge or a piece of chocolate. When I get up to Nassau Street, I always turn and look back. The tree is beautiful with all its lights, and all the decorations are wonderful. This 'tour' is especially fun to do in the late afternoon or early evening, when you get the full effect of the lights."

Princeton Shopping Center offers its own advantages, she adds. One is certainly parking, which is convenient and free. Once there, it is a great place to take a walk. "If you walk all around — especially more than once — you can get some really good exercise," she points out. "On weekends, there is the brass band, playing Christmas carols, and there are wonderful stores and restaurants if you want to stop in and take a break.

"I always love to check out Jordan's. Not only will you find all the cards you need, but all kinds of intriguing items you didn't expect to find. Bon Appétit is a gourmet delight, a treasure trove of fabulous delicacies and cheeses from around the world. A super place for gifts! Then, I always like to

Continued on Next Page



SWEET SANTAS: These special Santas (in milk or dark chocolate) are on display at the Thomas Sweet Chocolate Shop on Palmer Square. A full selection of delicious holiday chocolate sweets are made on the premises at this popular Princeton shop every day. Boxed assortments, wrapped for the holidays (some in Christmas tree design packaging), a big array of chocolate Santas and snowmen in all sizes, as well as many different novelties are all available. Chocolate champagne bottles, the Eiffel Tower, Leaning Tower of Pisa, specialty cars, sports and music-related items are just a sampling. Thomas Sweet's own boxed peppermint bark is a holiday favorite, and there are also crystal mint trees, wreaths, and bells. Specials for Hanukkah include chocolate menorahs, dreidels, and coins as well as bite-sized novelties. In addition, the Thomas Sweet Ice Cream Shop offers a large variety of ice cream cakes, which can also be customized for the holidays.

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Holiday Sights

Continued from Preceding Page

stop in at McCaffrey's for a cup of coffee in their cafe. I nearly always see someone I know!"

When times are tight economically, many people tend to focus on the pleasures of home and hearth. After a day of shopping, stop in at Bon Appetit or Main Street's Gourmet Bakery & Cafe in Kingston and pick up dinner to take home. A variety of prepared foods are available to pamper the palate, and the next stop could be CoolVines, the new wine shop. Enjoying a glass of wine with dinner or perhaps port afterward by the fire, is not only good "for the arteries, it is both relaxing and festive at the same time.

"Wines that are nice to sip by the glass — rich oaky chardonnays and lush Californian zinfandels are holiday favorites," says CoolVines owner Mark Censits. "Also, people like to have wines with a story, especially when it's a gift for a friend. A sparkling wine made from the winery's own grapes (as opposed to the larger production big brand champagnes who buy their grapes in bulk) or a delicious red burgundy named 'Milliane' after the winemaker's grandmother — all good stories."

Good Choice

Adds marketing and com-

munications manager, Lee Ann Jasinski: "If you're taking a bottle to a friend, a white burgundy is a good choice. It's a chardonnay, with a more elegant style. Other very festive choices for the season are the sparkling wines, including Prosecco from Italy. It's light, fresh, and fruity. It's also great to serve at a party and can mix well with orange, pomegranate, or cranberry juice.

"Moscato d'Asti is another sparkling wine from Italy, but sweet, with honey, marmalade and apricot flavoring. It's great with blue cheese and fantastic with desserts. It's light and low in alcohol and a very nice treat this time of year.

"Another favorite is rosé champagne. It's dry and looks beautiful in the glass and is very festive. If people are having a party, they're often looking for value," she adds. "They want more bang for the buck! Red or white and sparkling are all popular for parties. Among the whites, sauvignon blanc is unoaked, crisp and fresh, and goes very well with hors d'oeuvres and dips and spreads.

"Some people prefer big buttery, oaky chardonnays, which are more full-bodied and heavier. They also go well with hors d'oeuvres, and crabcakes and other seafood."

If red is the choice, Ms. Jasinski suggests a pinot noir,

especially from Oregon and California, or the more full-bodied cabernet sauvignon or cabernet blend. "A Bordeaux is a very nice choice with a beef tenderloin dinner, she adds. "Italian food is also popular during the holidays, and Italian red wines, which tend to be drier, work very well."

CoolVines offers free wine tastings on Wednesdays from 5 to 8 p.m. and Saturdays from 2 to 5 p.m. "This is a great way to taste and learn," points out Ms. Jasinski. "Meet friends here before going out to a holiday dinner, and try some different wines."

"Tree Toasting"

Toasting friends and family is a seasonal tradition, and it has been taken to another level by a friend in Arizona. As she explains, "Next Friday, we are having our second annual 'Toasting of the Trees' neighborhood party. Participants are either hosts who supply a decorated house and the paper plates, etc., or the appetizer crew that provides the food at the houses. It's BYOB, and we have four houses. The appetizers are delivered to the house assigned about 30 minutes prior to the start. We all begin at the first house, spend 45 minutes getting (re)acquainted, picking up name tags, and enjoying the first set of appetizers.

"At the sound of sleigh bells, we all toast the tree and the hosts, and begin walking to the second house. We usually have a wagon or cart to tote the beverages of choice that people bring. We have about five minutes scheduled to walk to the second house. Then we spend roughly 30 minutes at each house, finishing up at the fourth home around 9 p.m. It's very festive, lots of laughs, and nice to see other decorated homes in

the neighborhood."

Christmas Eve traditions are a big part of holiday pleasure, and whether it's attending a church service, trimming the tree, or visiting friends (not to mention last minute shopping, wrapping, assembling toys, hiding a new bicycle, or hanging stockings!), Christmas Eve is one of the most special times of the season.

The "Toasting the Trees" family also has a well-loved Christmas Eve ritual. "We always sit around the fondue pot and enjoy cheese fondue. In the interests of healthy eating, we have added apple slices and broccoli pieces to dip into

Continued on Next Page

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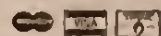
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3:15-5:00pm

22 First Day
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12:15-2:00pm
8:30-10:30pm
4:30-6:15pm

23
12:45-2:30pm
3:30-5:15pm
7:15-9:15pm

24
10:00am-12:15pm
2:00-4:00pm

25 CLOSED
Christmas
Day

26
11:15am-1:00pm
2:00-3:45pm
4:45-6:45pm
7:45-9:45pm

27
11:15am-1:00pm
2:00-3:45pm
4:45-6:45pm
7:45-9:45pm

28
11:15am-1:00pm
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7:45-9:45pm

29
12:15-2:00pm
4:15-6:00pm
7:30-9:30pm

30
12:30-2:15pm
4:15-6:00pm
7:30-9:30pm

31 CLOSED
New Year's
Eve

1
12:30-2:30pm
4:00-5:45pm
7:00-9:00pm

2
12:00-2:00pm
8:30-10:30pm

3
12:15-2:00pm
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Holiday Sights

Continued from Preceding Page

the cheese. A good spinach and green salad is the only other thing to think about that night. It's easy to plan this simple dinner around church services and other Christmas Eve activities."

Group Activity

Although many families now set up and decorate the tree earlier in December, some still hold out until Christmas Eve, and it's usually a group activity with parents and children. A Pennsylvania friend reports, "We always decorate together, and the tree is the highlight. Each year, someone gets a turn to put the star on top. The kids can't wait to see who will have the honor. We also read 'The Night Before Christmas',

and we put out cookies for Santa and carrots for the reindeer. We go to Midnight Mass, so then we have plenty of time just to hang out on Christmas morning. We always have a big breakfast, and then leisurely enjoy all the gifts. Christmas dinner and friends and relatives all come later in the day."

A Princeton neighbor has come up with a way to enjoy Christmas and at the same time lower the often accompanying stress level. "So often people lose track of the word 'enjoy' during the holiday season. There's so much to do: shopping, wrapping, writing cards, mailing, and, of course, cooking. After years of chasing around on Christmas morning, trying to get the holiday meal prepared while everyone opened gifts, read their new books, played with their new toys, etc., I decided that enough was enough!

"I now prepare the holiday meal on Christmas Eve: turkey, stuffing and all the traditional side dishes. On Christmas day, I put out the carved turkey and 'fixins' and direct everyone to the sandwich makings — or the microwave. The kids can nibble or pig out at their leisure, and I can put my feet up in the new recliner, open my gifts when I want to and even have time to read my new mystery novel! Everyone is happy, and the stress has gone away. If my two teen-aged sons want to visit with their friends (to show off their new hand-held video games) that's fine, too. No obligations to hang around for a sit-down dinner with the relatives."

Giving a hand to those who need help is one of the most welcome holiday traditions, and so often those who give their time find that it is among their most rewarding experiences. A friend, newly moved to Tucson, discovered this last year, as well as an additional surprise.

"My husband and I had just moved to Tucson. It was just him and me for the holidays, so we decided to volunteer and help serve meals to the

less fortunate. There was an ad in our local Tucson paper, asking for volunteers to help deliver meals for a restaurant/bar called TD's. Being new to Tucson, we didn't know many places in town. We answered the ad, and the gentleman we spoke to was very excited that we could help.

"Christmas morning, we drove over to the bar, and went in the back door. While my husband was talking to the manager in his office and getting our T-shirts and Santa hat, I thought I'd take a look around. As I walked toward the front of the bar, I noticed a large sound system behind a curtain with a long, lit, Plexi-glas stage extending out into the bar area. It finally dawned on me that TD's was a strip club!

Free Dinner

"My husband and I spent one of the best Christmases ever. All the employees of the club/bar had donated percentages of their pay checks throughout the year, and volunteered their holiday to make this Christmas celebration happen. Anyone who wanted to could come in and have a free dinner of turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing, green beans, dessert, and non-alcoholic drinks. The people were waited on by staff and volunteers. Along with a free meal, there was a gift for everyone, a food bank, free clothing bank, and also a magician and Santa Claus in attendance. For those who couldn't leave their homes because of illness or age, we delivered meals and presents.

"After the day was over, my husband and I stopped at a little Chinese restaurant for our Christmas dinner. It was a wonderful Christmas and one I will always remember."

A holiday highlight for many people is going out to get the Christmas tree. Sometimes, families will accompany Dad to cut down a tree; other times, they'll make the rounds to a variety of nurseries, tree farms, etc. to find just the right one — size, shape, needle texture, etc.

Occasionally, selecting, buying, and setting up the tree can lead to friction — or even worse! For example, says a former neighbor, now in Connecticut: "All of my friends, both locally and in surrounding counties know when Bill and I are setting the tree into its stand because they can hear us screaming at each other: who's not holding, twisting the tree properly; would you just turn it a little more to the right; which is the fuller side and how should it be facing the room, etc. Of course, this entire exercise begins with buying the tree because both parties have the 'best' eye as to which tree will work best in the appointed room."

Big Kiss

There is a solution, which she found to her husband's delight. "One year, I saw an ad in our Connecticut paper: 'In the spirit of peace on earth, bring your Christmas tree stand to our nursery, and we'll take the stress out of putting up that tree!'

"So, I drove over to the tree lot (which is a wonderful nursery with a great reputation) with my tree stand

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Continued on Next Page

Holiday Sights

Continued from Preceding Page

in my convertible. Sure enough, there was Vinny expertly fitting a blue spruce into a stand while the proud owner of the fir paid the cashier. A line had formed — all women! — and I joined it. I found two of my friends in the line, and one quipped: 'I think this service was instituted so that Vinny (a widower) can meet women!' My other friend answered, 'Well, it certainly wasn't the brainstorm of a divorce lawyer.'

"When Vinny fitted my Douglas fir into the Chevy, he handed me a cellophane wrapper; it contained mistletoe. 'You deserve a big kiss from your husband; you saved him a lot of grief. Merry Christmas!'"

Perhaps, as Christmas

gets closer, one of your favorite outings is an excursion to the Big Apple to see the tree in Rockefeller Center and the ice skaters, the always special windows in Lord & Taylor, also those of Saks and Macy's. A new tradition may be going to the Christmas boutiques in Bryant Park, where there is also ice skating.

Holiday traditions are special, no matter what one's age. The 25-year-old daughter of a friend who lives in New York City always plans a special pre-Christmas event. "I love my annual cookie party at our apartment. It's time to bring all my favorite girl friends together for wine, food, and cookies! Also, seeing Santa in the department stores makes me smile, and I love caroling, looking in the store windows, and my mom's egg casserole on Christmas morning. Then, it's on to the Bloody Marys and clam chowder for lunch, and lots of oysters, clams, and shrimp cocktail, too!"

Special dishes are so much a part of the holidays, and a tradition that often continues through the generations.

"I remember what we had to eat on Christmas when I was growing up," says a Pennington friend, "and one of the very special things was scalloped oysters. My grandmother made them, my dad made them, and now my son has started making them. It brings back all the Christmas memories from years ago."

Under the Tree

Traditions can also be very much missed, if for some reason they are discarded. A retired couple decided to downsize their holiday decorating plans this Christmas. "I don't think I'll set up the trains under the tree this year," said the husband, who had always looked forward to putting out his trains, which he had had since he was a boy. "It's just a lot of bother."

The next day, the couple took their grandchildren to the Kelsey Theater, and later to see Santa at one of the stores. One of the little ones said, "Have you put the tree up yet, Grandpa?"

"Yes," he answered.

"And we know what you'll put under the tree!" said the little boy enthusiastically. So that decided the issue, and the trains are making their

way under the tree, as they have done for many years.

With the emphasis on so many holiday social events and the need for shopping, wrapping, decorating, and cooking, the stress level can rise. How do people try to fit in everything, and yet still manage to enjoy the season?

Here are some suggestions. You've heard them all before, but they bear repeating — and some do work!

"I hate to feel rushed," says a former Princeton resident, now living in the midwest. "I really enjoy the holidays and all they entail, but when I'm rushed, I'm easily irritated. I do whatever I can not to be rushed. I find that if the phone rings and I'm really busy, I'm not nice to whom ever calls. Much better to let the answering machine take over rather than snap at or sound uninterested to the caller, most likely a friend."

"My nap is essential," she continues. "To get enough time in every day during this season, I'm up by 4 or 4:30 a.m. and get started with my exercises, meanwhile working on a pot of tea. Then, by noon, when I've already put in quite a full day, I stretch out for a nap. I sleep for an hour or more, then I'm ready for the rest of the day. This way, I really get two days out of every one. Last night, it was just past 10 when I finished yesterday's Christmas preparations; I was asleep by 11."

Additional Tips

"Finally," she says, "I make a list. I write down what I have to do that day and cross off each item as it is accomplished. Extra tasks get inserted as my day progresses without being written down, but somehow if 'it's' on the list, it gets done for sure."

A Princeton friend, who also makes lists, agrees, and she has a number of additional tips to keep the angst at bay. It is rare, by the way, that it can be totally avoided. Just reduce it and go with the flow! Forget the "fight or flight" syndrome.

Continued on Next Page



HOLIDAY DINING: John Procaccini (left), Tino Procaccini, Richard Carnevale, and Joseph Carnevale, owners of Sotto, are shown in their popular grotto-like Nassau Street restaurant. Authentic Italian cuisine, focusing on the dishes of central Italy, is highlighted at Sotto, and there is also an award-winning wine list. Accommodations for private parties (lunch, dinner, and cocktail) are available for 25 to 50 people in the restaurant's special lounge, and holiday parties are in full-swing at Sotto. Catering is also an important part of the restaurant's flourishing business, including the Italian "Seven Fishes" traditional Christmas Eve dinner, featuring several courses. Gift certificates for dining at the restaurant are a welcome holiday remembrance.

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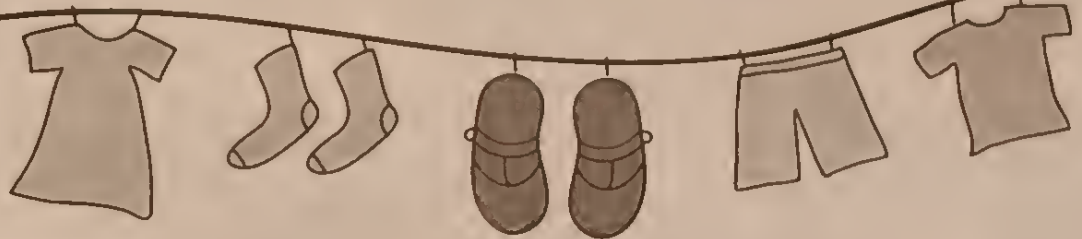
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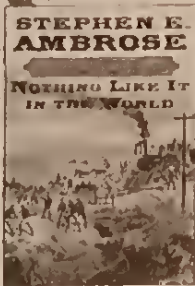
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History Books for Holiday Giving

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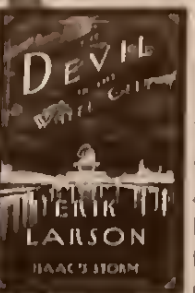


NOTHING LIKE IT IN THE WORLD

by Stephen E. Ambrose

From the author of the bestselling *D-Day*, *Undaunted Courage*, *Citizen Soldiers*, *The Victors* and *Comrades* comes this epic true story of the transcontinental railroad, a brilliant feat of enterprise and engineering. The Union had won the Civil War and slavery had been abolished. Abraham Lincoln, however, would not live to see the next great achievement of the American people — the building of the transcontinental railroad. This fascinating book opens with Lincoln, who had championed the building of railroads as a young lawyer, and ends with the golden stake as the Central Pacific and the Union Pacific are linked in 1869. It is the story of the men who made this dream a reality — businessmen who risked their money, engineers and surveyors who risked (and lost) their lives, and common men — Chinese, Irish, defeated Southerners — who did the dangerous and backbreaking work on the tracks that joined the continent as a nation.

Dr. Ambrose was a retired Boyd Professor of History at the University of New Orleans. He was the Director Emeritus of the Eisenhower Center in New Orleans, and the founder of the National D-Day Museum. He was also a contributing editor for the *Quarterly Journal of Military History*, a member of the board of directors for *American Rivers*, and a member of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council Board.



THE DEVIL IN WHITE CITY

by Erik Larson

The story of two men's obsessions with the Chicago World's Fair of 1893 — one its architect, the other a murderer. *The Devil in the White City* draws the reader into a time of magic and majesty, made all the more appealing by a supporting cast of real-life characters, including Buffalo Bill, Theodore Dreiser, Susan B. Anthony, Thomas Edison, Archduke Francis Ferdinand, and others.

Larson's tale captures a time and place that vividly come to life. Daniel H. Burnham is the architect responsible for the construction of the fair, and H. H. Holmes is the serial killer who used the popularity of the fair for his own nefarious ends. Burnham's work at overcoming obstacles before completing the project is interwoven with chapters

relating to the maniacal Holmes, whose person will keep you both captivated and haunted. This almost unbelievable history reads like the work of a highly inventive novelist.

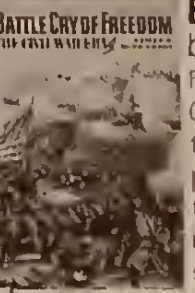


THE BOOK OF AMERICAN TRADITIONS

by Emyl Jenkins

Celebrating America's rich cultural legacy, *The Book of American Traditions* is a collection of stories, rituals, folklore, and customs that sheds new light on holiday traditions throughout the year and includes works by Thomas Wolfe, O. Henry, Reynolds Price, and others.

Ms. Jenkins is a longtime antiques appraiser. She has worked at two auction houses and written numerous books and articles on antiques, as well as a syndicated column. In addition to *The Book of American Traditions* she is the author of *Emyl Jenkins Appraisal Book*, *Emyl Jenkins Southern Christmas*, *Stealing with Style*, and *From Store-bought to Homemade*, among others.



BATTLE CRY OF FREEDOM

by James M. McPherson

Pulitzer Prize-winning *Battle Cry of Freedom* is without question the definitive one-volume history of the Civil War. Mr. McPherson's fast-paced narrative fully integrates the political, social, and military events that crowded the two decades from the outbreak of one war in Mexico to the ending of another at Appomattox. Packed with drama and analytical insight, the book vividly recounts the momentous episodes that preceded the Civil War including the Dred Scott decision, the Lincoln-Douglas debates, John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry. From there it moves into a masterful chronicle of the war itself—the battles, the strategic maneuvering by each side, the politics, and the personalities.

Mr. McPherson is Edwards Professor of American History at Princeton University. His other works include *The Struggle for Equality*, *Marching Toward Freedom*, and *Ordeal by Fire*.



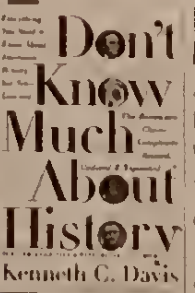
A LEAP IN THE DARK: The Struggle to Create the American Republic

by John Ferling

A Leap in the Dark represents the mature reflections of a historian who has spent an entire career on its subject. Mr. Ferling has written a narrative account that takes the reader from the Albany Congress of 1754 to the presidential inauguration of Thomas Jefferson in 1801.

This book is an exposition of the efforts, difficulties, conflicting interests, and justifications that were factors in the various colonies moving away from the protection of the mother state and achieving a stable, although somewhat fortunate, political presence. The leading figures (and some lesser figures) of the Revolutionary and post-Revolutionary era are seen having to deal with highly complex and divisive issues.

John Ferling has written about an age of fascinating leaders and difficult choices, of grand ideas eloquently expressed and of epic conflicts bitterly fought. A brilliant portrait of the American Revolution, one that is compelling in its prose, fascinating in its details, and provocative in its fresh interpretations.



DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT HISTORY

by Kenneth C. Davis

A new, completely revised, expanded and updated edition of the million-selling New York Times bestseller that launched the entire *Don't Know Much About* series.

When *Don't Know Much About History* first appeared, it created a sensation. With humor, great stories, and a trademark conversational style, the book brought Americans a fresh new take on history. Mr. Davis proved Americans don't hate history—they just hate the dull version they were force-fed in school.

He incorporates new research and discoveries, updates and expands on American controversies. Also included is an expanded "civics-lesson" that examines some of America's hottest social and political issues, such as the death penalty and school prayer.

For the history buff and the history phobe alike, Davis proves once more why *People* magazine said that listening to him "is like returning to the classroom of the best teacher you ever had."

Holiday Sights

Continued from Preceding Page

"As Christmas approaches," says my friend, "the hype increases, and no matter how prepared you are, you feel the anxiety creep up. What to do? How to attain the serenity of those lovely scenes featured on the arriving Christmas cards? Cabins in the woods, smoke curling from tiny chimneys, children frolicking in the snow. How to put aside the commercialism of the day and discover anew the real spirit of the season?"

"Over the years, I have found a few ways to help banish the anxiety. Certainly, there is nothing like a cup of hot tea with Christmas music playing quietly in the background. This is a great accompaniment to writing Christmas cards, by the way. Take a deep breath, sip hot tea, and the troubles of the world melt away — temporarily, at least. This approach to the season was captured in the little book, 'A Cup of Christmas Tea', which has been so popular for many years, partly because it speaks to the feelings that we all have.

"A brisk walk around the neighborhood is a tried and tested way to reduce stress," she adds. "Walking allows one to view the beauty of mid-winter, the setting sun through bare branches, the pine cones on the lawn and the winterberries on the bush, begging the birds to try them. A lovely walk at this time of year is the farm trail at Terhune Orchards. It's just long enough to allow one's nose to tingle without freezing. The harvest is in, and the woods sleep. It's quiet, peaceful, and beautiful.

"Finally, Weight Watchers warns that holiday anxiety can often lead to over-eating. As feelings of concern and sometimes holiday loneliness or sadness grow, the tendency is to reach for snacks that add to calorie intake. Keep your hands busy instead. Try knitting! Knitting keeps your fingers flying while you find satisfaction in making a one-of-a-kind creation. In addition, knitting keeps your hands out of the cookie jar!"

Sheer Pleasure

Susan Olson, owner of The Woolly Lamb in Pennington, agrees, and she also finds that many customers who knit, crochet, and needlepoint, do it for the sheer pleasure of doing it.

"It is more the 'process' than the final product. Knitting and needlepoint are often addicting hobbies, and customers have to have it in their hands as much as possible. Prior to Christmas, many customers are knitting scarves, socks, mittens, and hats, as they make wonderful gifts without requiring a large amount of time to complete. Baby sweaters, hats, and blankets are popular all year, especially with new grandmothers-to-be.

"Another favorite item is afghans, particularly in the winter," adds Ms. Olson. "New styles and yarns make these heirlooms-to-be.

"As for needlepoint, some customers only needlepoint, and they do this year-round. Christmas stockings and ornaments, which are popular, are usually started earlier in the year. Other customers needlepoint and knit, and switch off between the two. Items, such as needlepoint

jewelry boxes and dog/cat treat canisters, or knitted wine carriers, are always coming on the market and interest customers who are looking for something new."

Nothing induces a sense of serenity more than a visit to a spa. Hands-on pampering is a time-tested balm for body and soul. Metropolis Spa Salon in the Princeton Shopping Center has numerous treatments and services to soothe the spirit and refresh the body. Facials, massages, body wraps, hydrotherapy, pedicures and manicures are all offered in a variety of treatments.

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Relaxing Massage

For those on their feet all day balancing working, shopping, and holiday parties, Metropolis also offers the new Kneipp leg and foot treatment. "It's very refreshing," notes Ms. Hearn. "It uses Arnica cream, spray, or gel, and is like a very relaxing massage."

Metropolis also offers a number of gift packages, welcome presents to introduce someone to the benefits of spa service, or a special treat for your own well-being. Included are "The Essentials" (special facial, massage, lunch, manicure, pedicure, shampoo, and blow-dry), "The Renewal", "Tranquility", "Aromatic Body Touch", and "Ultimate Day of Rejuvenation" (the works!)

Yoga, Pilates, and a variety of other fitness and exercise programs also help one to relax when there is seemingly more to get done than time allows.

A neighbor recently had an outing in Manhattan that seemed to combine the pleasures of the holidays with a reminder of the deeper meaning of this season. "One of the early events in December is the Park Avenue Tree Lighting and Carol Sing. This year, the annual event took place December 7 (the anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941). It was in the early evening at 91st Street and Park Avenue, in front of the Brick Presbyterian Church. Park Avenue South is closed to traffic, and friends and neighbors gather to light the trees that line the avenue from 96th Street to the center of the city.

"People who live on Park Avenue open their windows and lean out, participating from above. Folks brave the cold and wind, and sing together. When the words, 'Let there be light!' are spoken, the trees are lighted, one by one, down Park Avenue. This tree lighting was begun in 1945, after the end of World War II, in memory of those who gave their lives for their country. In addition to the singing and the joyous spirit, taps are played, and there is a moment of silence in remembrance of those who served the nation and those who continue to serve today."

Taking part in an event like this, and in so many others that are available, is an opportunity to celebrate and savor this special season.

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—Jean Stratton

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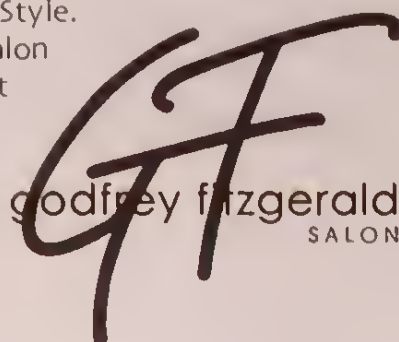
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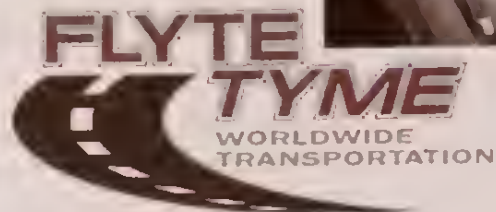
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the Waltz from Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*. Sensational young tenor Aaron Blankfield will sing favorite operatic arias by Verdi, Gounod and Lehar, and the evening will conclude with Music from Great Films including *Lawrence of Arabia*, *Gone With The Wind*, *Doctor Zhivago* and others. The event takes place Wed. 12/31/08 at 8:00 PM and tickets, priced from \$25 to \$55, can be ordered by calling the Symphony at 609-394-1338 (x 2), or by calling Tickets.com at 1-800-955-5566. www.trentonsymphony.org.



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Many Holiday Traditions Involve Cookies, Candies and Other Sweet Treats

The aroma of cookies baking in the oven — surely one of the most prevalent and most enjoyable Christmas traditions. No one doesn't like Christmas cookies!

Whether it's the many varieties of cookies or candy canes, plum pudding, fudge, buche de noel, strudel, or brownies, everyone has their own favorite holiday treat and their own special memory to go with it.

A friend in Dutchess County, N.Y. remembers baking cookies with her mother and sister and how this always began the holiday season for them. It is a tradition she has continued with her own children.

"Baking has always been something we like to do. Mom, Jane, and I used to take one day, and bake hundreds of cookies. Once, we put them all on the dining room table, and they covered the whole thing. The kids were little, and I remember Kristen, Michael, and Katie came over, and I thought their eyes were going to pop out of their heads! Michael just jumped up and down, and kept eating them."

Adds a Princeton neighbor: "My mother made hundreds and hundreds of cookies at Christmas, and gave them to friends and relatives as gifts.

They were every kind you can think of; some had icing, and they were in all different shapes — stars, trees, bells, angels, gingerbread men, etc. My sisters and I would help Mom put them in boxes and tins, about 50 in each. We could nibble as we packed them, but not before. It was very clear that these were gifts, and no sampling beforehand was allowed.

"My mom also made great fruit cakes. She searched and searched for the best recipe, and came up with a great one with lots of fruit and nuts, and soaked in brandy. I can never understand why some people don't like fruit cake — they wouldn't have been able to resist my mom's."

Sous Chefs

Christmas cookies and other treats seem to evoke memories of mothers. Says another friend: "When I was growing up, Christmas and baking cookies with my mom were synonymous. My mother would start baking in early November (she would then freeze the cookies), and each week she would make a different recipe.

"As soon as my sister and I were tall enough to reach the kitchen counter, we were called into service as sous chefs! At

first, we were allowed to put the red and green sprinkles on the cookies; eventually, we learned to roll out the dough and cut it into shapes of bells, Christmas trees, Santas, and snowflakes. I'll never forget the fun we had participating in this special activity. Although my little girl is only one year old, I plan to continue this family tradition with her in a few years. For now, I'm using the chilled cookie dough which comes in the tube — with the little 'Dough Boy' on the label!

Food, friends, and family! They all go together. Another popular holiday treat and fun to make with the family or a group of friends is the gingerbread house.

This has a long history. Ginger first became popular in Europe during the Middle Ages, probably brought in by returning Crusaders from Asia. It was initially used as a spice and then as a preservative, and by the 15th Century, people began using ginger as flavoring for cakes and breads. Many countries created unique gingerbread recipes, which they showcased at the many gingerbread "fairs" throughout Europe.

Gingerbread Bakers

Continued on Next Page



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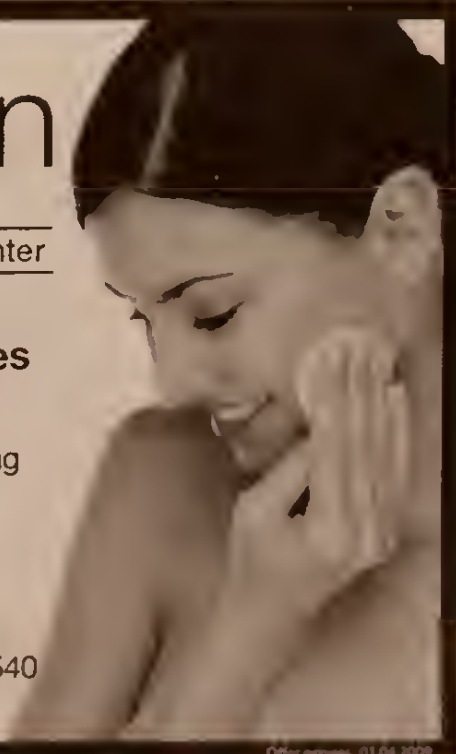

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STEPHEN E. AMBROSE

NOTHING LIKE IT IN THE WORLD



NOTHING LIKE IT IN THE WORLD

by Stephen E. Ambrose

From the author of the bestselling *D-Day*, *Undaunted Courage*, *Citizen Soldiers*, *The Victors* and *Comrades* comes this epic true story of the transcontinental railroad, a brilliant feat of enterprise and engineering. The Union had won the Civil War and slavery had been abolished. Abraham Lincoln, however, would not live to see the next great achievement of the American people — the building of the transcontinental railroad. This fascinating book opens with Lincoln, who had championed the building of railroads as a young lawyer, and ends with the golden stake as the Central Pacific and the Union Pacific are linked in 1869. It is the story of the men who made this dream a reality — businessmen who risked their money, engineers and surveyors who risked (and lost) their lives, and common men — Chinese, Irish, defeated Southerners — who did the dangerous and backbreaking work on the tracks that joined the continent as a nation.

Dr. Ambrose was a retired Boyd Professor of History at the University of New Orleans. He was the Director Emeritus of the Eisenhower Center in New Orleans, and the founder of the National D-Day Museum. He was also a contributing editor for the *Quarterly Journal of Military History*, a member of the board of directors for *American Rivers*, and a member of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council Board.

THE DEVIL IN WHITE CITY



THE DEVIL IN WHITE CITY

by Erik Larson

The story of two men's obsessions with the Chicago World's Fair of 1893 — one its architect, the other a murderer. *The Devil in the White City* draws the reader into a time of magic and majesty, made all the more appealing by a supporting cast of real life characters, including Buffalo Bill, Theodore Dreiser, Susan B. Anthony, Thomas Edison, Archduke Francis Ferdinand, and others.

Larson's tale captures a time and place that vividly come to life. Daniel H. Burnham is the architect responsible for the construction of the fair, and H. H. Holmes is the serial killer who used the popularity of the fair for his own nefarious ends. Burnham's work at overcoming obstacles before completing the project is interwoven with chapters

relating to the maniacal Holmes, whose person will keep you both captivated and haunted. This almost unbelievable history reads like the work of a highly inventive novelist.

EMYL JENKINS



THE BOOK OF AMERICAN TRADITIONS

by Emyl Jenkins

Celebrating America's rich cultural legacy, *The Book of American Traditions* is a collection of stories, rituals, folklore, and customs that sheds new light on holiday traditions throughout the year and includes works by Thomas Wolfe, O. Henry, Reynolds Price, and others.

Ms. Jenkins is a longtime antiques appraiser. She has worked at two auction houses and written numerous books and articles on antiques, as well as a syndicated column. In addition to *The Book of American Traditions* she is the author of *Emyl Jenkins Appraisal Book*, *Emyl Jenkins Southern Christmas*, *Stealing with Style*, and *From Store-bought to Homemade*, among others.

BATTLE CRY OF FREEDOM



BATTLE CRY OF FREEDOM

by James M. McPherson

Pulitzer Prize-winning *Battle Cry of Freedom* is without question the definitive one-volume history of the Civil War. Mr. McPherson's fast-paced narrative fully integrates the political, social, and military events that crowded the two decades from the outbreak of one war in Mexico to the ending of another at Appomattox. Packed with drama and analytical insight, the book vividly recounts the momentous episodes that preceded the Civil War including the Dred Scott decision, the Lincoln-Douglas debates, John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry. From there it moves into a masterful chronicle of the war itself—the battles, the strategic maneuvering by each side, the politics, and the personalities.

Mr. McPherson is Edwards Professor of American History at Princeton University. His other works include *The Struggle for Equality*, *Marching Toward Freedom*, and *Ordeal by Fire*.

A LEAP IN THE DARK



A LEAP IN THE DARK: The Struggle to Create the American Republic

by John Ferling

A Leap in the Dark represents the mature reflections of a historian who has spent an entire career on its subject. Mr. Ferling has written a narrative account that takes the reader from the Albany Congress of 1754 to the presidential inauguration of Thomas Jefferson in 1801.

This book is an exposition of the efforts, difficulties, conflicting interests, and justifications that were factors in the various colonies moving away from the protection of the mother state and achieving a stable, although somewhat fortunate, political presence. The leading figures (and some lesser figures) of the Revolutionary and post-Revolutionary era are seen having to deal with highly complex and divisive issues.

John Ferling has written about an age of fascinating leaders and difficult choices, of grand ideas eloquently expressed and of epic conflicts bitterly fought. A brilliant portrait of the American Revolution, one that is compelling in its prose, fascinating in its details, and provocative in its fresh interpretations.

DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT HISTORY



DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT HISTORY

by Kenneth C. Davis

A new, completely revised, expanded and updated edition of the million-selling New York Times bestseller that launched the entire *Don't Know Much About* series.

When *Don't Know Much About History* first appeared, it created a sensation. With humor, great stories, and a trademark conversational style, the book brought Americans a fresh new take on history. Mr. Davis proved Americans don't hate history—they just hate the dull version they were force-fed in school.

He incorporates new research and discoveries, updates and expands on American controversies. Also included is an expanded "civics-lesson" that examines some of America's hottest social and political issues, such as the death penalty and school prayer.

For the history buff and the history-phobe alike, Davis proves once more why *People* magazine said that listening to him "is like returning to the classroom of the best teacher you ever had."



FEELING FIT: Thomas Yannitte, founder and owner of Phrog Fitness Studio, is enthusiastic about the opportunities his new fitness center can offer clients. An exercise specialist and author, Mr. Yannitte has designed efficient training systems and equipment, including the exclusive Kinesis system, which features a multi-level approach. It challenges the entire body, including improving balance and posture. Phrog Fitness embodies a holistic approach to fitness and a long-term philosophy of healthy living. Each client works with a personal trainer or within a semi-private group. Phrog offers many advantages for fitness, toning, and wellness — what a great way to shape up after all those holiday parties!

Holiday Treats

Continued from Preceding Page

Eventually, gingerbread-making became a respected profession, distinct from other baking. Gingerbread bakers formed their own guilds in Germany, France, and England, and gingerbread cakes and cookies became associated with many holidays, and were baked into shapes relevant to particular celebrations. Elaborate molds were used to make special delicacies. When the Brothers Grimm published their fairy tales, the witch's house in "Hansel and Gretel" was described as a house of candies and cakes; and German bakers began the tradition of crafting "Hexenhäusle", or witches' houses, a tradition which led to the gingerbread houses we know today.

Creating gingerbread houses can be a fun holiday activity. One of my friends wanted something for her seven children (from five to 16!) to do the day after Thanksgiving. She lined up the ingredients, and directed each child to make a gingerbread house, which would then be judged by their uncle. Given the various ages of the workers, the rules were flexible.

When Uncle Jim came in to view the houses, he found great variety: some were quite ornate, others simpler. But the

5-year-old had a unique take. He had crashed his toy truck into his house. "Demolition," he told Uncle Jim. "Then next year, I'll build a bigger and better house in its place!"

Everyone received an award: gingerbread men!

A Princeton resident makes gingerbread houses every Christmas. "We make them from scratch and then decorate them. This year, my teenage daughter invited eight girls over, and they each made one. They had a great time, and the houses were amazingly beautiful."

Any number of sweet treats have become traditional holiday favorites, and there is a special continuity when they have been passed down through the years.

Wonderful Treats

"In our family, Christmas would not be Christmas without date and nut rolls," says a neighbor. "Whenever company came, we would offer these wonderful treats. After they were baked, they were kept in a special tin, which was lined with waxed paper. The recipe goes back to the early 1900s, maybe even before. Aunt Grace Beane's name appears on the recipe card, and she lived long ago. Then, each generation made them: Grace's daughter, Kitty; then

Continued on Next Page

Brown Sugar Squares

Cream together

1 cup butter

1½ cup brown sugar

Beat in

2 cups flour, sifted

Pat evenly into well-greased 11 x 15-inch pan or for thicker bars, a lasagna pan. Bake 20 minutes at 300 degrees. Let cool.

Beat well

4 eggs

Beat in

2 cups brown sugar

4 tblsp. flour

½ tsp. baking powder

½ tsp. salt

Stir in

1 cup coconut, shredded

1 cup walnuts, lightly cooked

Spread over baked pastry. Bake at 350 degrees for 22 min. Cool overnight and cut into bars. About 4 dozen.

Holiday Treats

Continued from Preceding Page
her daughter Marion, and now, Carol, Marion's daughter. And I expect they will continue to be made many decades from now."

Families of different ethnicities have their own special food traditions. A family of Italian heritage makes a pastry called Stufoli. "This is a real holiday tradition for us, and everyone takes part," says the lady of the house. "Last weekend, we had a production line set up to make this wonderful fried pastry dipped in honey. It takes me making the pastry, two daughters to roll and cut, another daughter to fry in a deep fryer, and a couple of granddaughters to dip it in honey and put the powdered sugar on top. It is definitely worth the effort!"

Other fried sweet treats are the Soofganiot or Hanukkah donuts, which are traditionally served during that celebration. They can be in different sizes, and made with jelly or honey. In the Jewish tradition, fried food is a reminder of the miracle of the oil that burned for eight days when the Temple was rededicated in Jerusalem.

In addition to Soofganiot, it is traditional to give children

gelt (money) during Hanukkah. They also often receive chocolate "gelt", chocolate coins wrapped in gold foil.

Gran's Kitchen

Another popular Jewish treat, although not traditionally served at Hanukkah, is rugelach, a pastry with various fillings, such as raisins, walnuts, cinnamon, chocolate, marzipan, poppy seed, and apricot preserves, which are rolled up inside the pastry.

A friend, who lives in Manhattan has happy memories of this special delicacy. "Although rugelach (I love to say rug-a-la, which my grandmother said was the way to pronounce it) isn't necessarily tied to Hanukkah, my grandmother always made this treat during our holidays. Those rugelach cookies are my favorites. Even though I buy them at Zabar's now (I'm not a very good baker), I can still smell the wonderful scents which wafted through Gran's kitchen. I always liked the rugelach filled with raspberry the best."

Still another fried sweet dish is the buñuelo, a Mexican and Latin American specialty, which is basically fried bread with cinnamon and sugar. A friend in Tucson has found a "shortcut" recipe which she

guarantees. "I take tortillas, cut them into quarters, and deep-fry them. Sprinkle with cinnamon and sugar while they're hot, and they are delicious!"

For many families, a seasonal specialty is the traditional German strudel. "We have always made apple strudel in our family," says a friend of German heritage. It can be a time-consuming project, she adds, and motivation is important. "When my children were young, I continued this tradition with the help of my husband, daughter, and son. First, there was the preparation of making the dough ahead of time, baking a plain cake to crumble over the paper-thin dough along with coring, peeling, and cutting apples.

Final Challenge

"Other ingredients needing preparation were mixing

sugar and cinnamon, finely chopping pecans, melting the butter, and getting raisins ready. The large dining room table was cleared and covered with a big cloth sprinkled with flour. It was always a challenge to roll out the dough, then lift and pull it from beneath using the palms and fingertips of our hands, trying very hard not to make any holes. Two to three family members were required for this part.

"Everyone joined in with the sprinkling of butter and additional ingredients over the dough. Then came the final challenge of rolling the strudel by lifting the edge of the cloth slowly and placing it on the greased baking sheet. The aroma was heavenly and the taste exquisite."

If you don't want to undertake something that challenging, and if time is tight, an-

Continued on Next Page

Lorna's Cranberry Sauce

4 cups cranberries
2 cups water
2 cups sugar
1 cup raisins
1 cup broken walnuts
1 orange, chopped into very small pieces, including rind
Place cranberries, water and sugar in a pot. Cook over medium heat until the berries begin to pop. At that point, add the walnuts, raisins, and chopped orange. Stir. Continue to simmer gently over a medium/low heat for 15 minutes. Cool and refrigerate. This can be kept refrigerated for three to four weeks. Great with turkey, pork, beef, or alone.



SWEET SEDUCTION: Nancy Robinson, owner of Robinson's Fine Candles, holds an assortment of homemade chocolate snowman pops — super stocking stuffers in milk, dark, and white chocolate. Known for its wonderful selection of homemade chocolates, Robinson's offers a variety of holiday treats, including chocolate Santas, frees, snowmen, rosos, and novelties, as well as its famous gift box chocolate assortments in milk, dark, or mixed. Specially-made European truffles are a big hit with customers, as is the homemade peanut brittle, a holiday specialty. Homemade peppermint candy canes, old-fashioned hard-to-find ribbon candy, barley pops, chocolate straws, fudge, fun chocolate cigars, Robinson's own special crystal cream mints, and Christmas French mints with wreath design are all traditional favorites. Mixed nuts and red, green, and white Jordan's almonds are also available in one of the many colorful holiday tins, boxes, bowls, and plates, which can all be filled with the customer's choices. A martini glass, full of chocolate cordials, is ready to go, as is an assortment of gift baskets, which can also be customized. Assorted sugar-free chocolates are also in stock.

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A TIMELESS GIFT: This beautiful silver necklace with heart shaped turquoise stone, edged in gold, is shown with matching earrings and ring. Available at Marlowe's Jewelry & Repairs at the Princeton Shopping Center, it is one of the gorgeous creations of designer Andréa Candela. In business for 20 years, Marlowe's offers an eclectic selection of appealing and affordable jewelry in gold, silver, pearls, precious and semi-precious stones. Diamonds are always in demand for the holidays, as is the collection of multi-strand pearl necklaces in today's popular chocolate shade. Charm bracelets continue to be favored, and "Hot Diamond" silver charms, set with tiny diamonds, in many styles, are wonderful gifts. A selection of watches includes the private label Marlowe signature watches for men and women, and your leading man will also appreciate a set of handsome silver or gold cuff links. Selected items for children and babies are offered, as well as an outstanding group of handblown glass and sterling silver contemporary pieces from Poland, and charming animal figurines. Jewelry remodeling is a specialty at Marlowe's, as is expert repair, cleaning, and restringing. Currently, 20 percent to 40 percent savings are offered on all jewelry in stock. Gift certificates are available.

Holiday Treats

Continued from Preceding Page

other friend has an excellent suggestion for fudge, which she came upon through trial and error. "I was always a bit intimidated by the holiday cookie exchange parties which are so popular — you know, where everyone brings dozens of her favorite cookie (each one is more perfect than the next) and includes the recipe. My cookies always looked as if someone had sat on them. The bottoms were always brown. My son came home from preschool one day with two cookies and handed them to me. 'I didn't eat these, Mom, because they aren't cooked.' When I assured him that they were fine, he answered: 'Oh, no; the bottoms aren't dark brown!'"

"When I visited my brother and sister-in-law in Maryland, Erica treated me to delicious fudge. I asked her for the recipe, and was thrilled to find out how easy it was to make. Each time I'm invited to a cookie exchange, I bring this fudge. It's Baker's Classic Chocolate Fudge, with a prep time of just 10 minutes. I must admit that I enclose a much more complicated recipe with my confection!"

Atop Packages

Nothing is more traditional at Christmas than the candy cane. Seen hanging on trees, in the mouths of children, or atop packages, they are an icon of the season. But who knows

when and how they came to be? One story dates their beginning to Cologne, Germany in 1670. The choir master of the church was trying to find a way to keep children quiet during the Mass. His solution: give them candy!

Hard stick candy was freely available, and he cleverly changed the shape from a straight stick to a hooked one, and it became a shepherd's

crook. The Christmas tree was becoming popular around this time, and it didn't take long to see how easily these cane-shaped sweets hooked onto tree branches. Eventually, they became commercial.

The original candy was all white, and it wasn't until the 1920s that the red stripes were added by Bob McCormick, who had a small confec-

Continued on Next Page

Scottish Shortbread

Cream thoroughly
1 cup butter
Add gradually, while beating
½ cup white or brown sugar
Sift together and add to butter and sugar
2 cups flour
¼ tsp. salt
¼ tsp. baking powder
Mix well and roll out ¼-inch thick. Cut in squares or rounds. Prick with fork. Bake at 300 degrees until delicately browned, 20 to 25 minutes.

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Holiday Treats

Continued from Preceding Page

tioners shop in Georgia. He started by hand-twisting the colors into the candy cane, and then eventually found a way to mechanize the process. Today, candy canes are a ubiquitous part of holiday celebrations far and wide.

Another "must-have" of the Christmas season is plum pudding; it's a very big deal in many households. My next door neighbor tells of a special tradition associated with plum pudding. "My sister-in-law is from Wales, and each Christmas, she makes plum pudding for the family. Actually, everyone in the house is meant to have a hand in making the pudding, so everyone should take a turn with the

whisk, while making a wish. My sister-in-law always stirs a sixpence in the batter, which is supposed to bring good luck in the coming year to the person who finds it.

Brandy and Rum

"One Christmas, she brought her plum pudding to Philadelphia for a family Christmas dinner. She served it for dessert, and each of us ate very carefully, sure we would be the lucky person. Dessert was finished, the plum pudding gone, and no sixpence. Had someone swallowed it? Where could it have gone? Later, we solved the mystery. There had been a little of the pudding that did not fit into the dessert dish. And in that left-over bit in a Pyrex dish in the refrigerator, we later found the elusive

sixpence. I guess no one was lucky that year, or maybe everyone was! We were together as a family, sharing the wonderful holiday."

Another pleasing part of making plum pudding is that it keeps so well. You can make it two weeks before Christmas, and it will keep until the holiday. In fact, it gets better because the fruits, brandy and rum have more time to deepen the flavor. Once it has cooked, wrap it in plastic, keep it in the fridge, and just re-steam it before it's ready to be served.

As another devotee put it: "It's pretty to look at, as well as to eat. It's made in a ring mold and emerges from its steam bath honey brown and lavishly studded with fruit. Sensational!"

Cranberry sauce is yet another Christmas favorite (as well as for Thanksgiving, of course). It is a traditional side dish with a turkey or chicken dinner, but it can also be enjoyed with many other dishes, including pork or beef, or even all by itself. My neighbor makes cranberry sauce each Christmas, and it has special meaning for her.

"When I was just married, and we moved into our new apartment in New York, our first friends were Lorna and her husband. They were from Canada and were both pharmacists. Lorna was a fabulous cook. Each holiday season, she made her special cranberry sauce, and shared it with her friends. I acquired the recipe from her when she moved back to Toronto, and I continue to make the sauce and share it with friends each holiday season. Every time I make it, I think of Lorna and what a good friend she has been. The tradition has continued through the 50 years my husband and I have been married."

This is so often the meaning of special holiday dishes. It's not only the food itself, however delicious it is, but the memories associated with it and how they add another and deeper dimension to each new holiday season.

—Jean Stratton

No Flour Oatmeal Cookies

1 cup brown sugar
1 cup white sugar
1 cup margarine (there are healthy ones)
1 cup crunchy peanut butter
2 eggs
2 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. vanilla
5 to 6 cups old-fashioned oatmeal
Cream sugars and shortening. Add eggs, peanut butter and rest of ingredients. Drop from tsp. and press down with sugared bottom of a glass. Bake at 350 degrees until rich golden brown, about 8 to 10 minutes.

Sugar Molasses Cookies

¾ cup salad oil
1 cup sugar
¼ cup molasses
1 egg
2 tsp. baking soda
¼ tsp. cloves
½ tsp. ginger
1 tsp. cinnamon
½ tsp. salt
Sift dry ingredients together. Beat first four ingredients well and add flour mixture. Form in 1-inch balls and place (or drop from teaspoon) on greased cookie sheet. Flatten with sugared bottom of glass. Bake at 375 degrees for 8 to 10 minutes. Cool on paper towels or fine wire racks.

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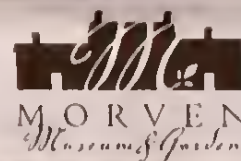
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